

CountryLiving

JUNE 2015

**INSPIRING
ROOMS**
with
**DOWN-HOME
CHARM**

Plus
**Guest Editor
MIRANDA LAMBERT**
**On What's
Country Now!**

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Ranimar Dining Room



Wesling Dining Room

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ON THE COVER

Miranda Lambert kicks back in White Bluff, TN. Photograph by Paul Costello; styling by Elizabeth Beeler; hair by Johnny Lavoy; makeup by Moani Lee; wardrobe by Tiffany Gifford. Jean Jacket: Citizens of Humanity; Blue Dress: American Eagle Outfitters; Necklace: Workhorse Jewelry; Rings: Workhorse Jewelry (left hand) and Jennybird and Lana Unlimited (right hand); Earrings: Lana Unlimited; Boots: Old Gringo.

Spot icons throughout by illustrator SROOP SUNAR.

Country star Ronnie Dunn and his wife, Janine, relax with their pups on the porch of their Tennessee home.





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CountryLiving

Hey, staffers:
Reveal your
musical talents
(or lack
thereof)!

Rachel Hardage Barrett

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Did not make school
chorus (sigh!) but
can play a rousing
"Chopsticks"
on the piano.

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Piano, violin,
guitar

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This one-woman
band plays the
trumpet, flute,
clarinet, bass, piano,
and bassoon.

STYLE & MARKET

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Ukulele enthusiast

Retired piano player.
("The Entertainer"
is her specialty.)

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Known for late-night
harmonica sessions

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A man wearing a white shirt, a green life vest, and a white cap is paddling a wooden canoe. A young girl with pigtails, wearing a purple and white life vest, is leaning over the side of the canoe, splashing water. They are on a river with a forested background. In the distance, a white RV and a white car are parked on a grassy area.

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A white RV with a red stripe is parked on a grassy field next to a silver SUV. A person is standing near the SUV. In the background, there is a river, a bridge, and a snow-capped mountain under a blue sky.

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editor's note



Me with
Guest Editor
Miranda
Lambert



THE GREAT HORSESHOE HUNT!

Don't forget to look for the horseshoe hidden in this issue. If you find it, go to countryliving.com/win and enter for a chance to win the table on page 52.

(Retail value: \$450)

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. Find the Horseshoe Contest. Sponsored by Hearst Communications, Inc. Beginning May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM (ET) through June 16, 2015 at 12:00 PM (ET), go to www.countryliving.com/horseshoe on a computer or wireless device and complete and submit the entry form pursuant to the on-screen instructions. Readers will submit what page number they found the hidden horseshoe on and answer the question on the entry form in one hundred words or less, "How would you decorate a room around this table?" Important Notice: You may be charged for visiting the mobile website in accordance with the terms of your service agreement with your carrier. One Winner will receive one Ronan Extension Table (ARV: \$450 each). Odds of winning will depend upon the total number of eligible entries received. Open to legal residents of the 50 United States and the District of Columbia, who have reached the age of majority in their state or territory of residence at time of entry. Legal residents of Canada (excluding Quebec) who have reached the aforementioned age in their province of residence at time of entry are also eligible to enter. Void in Puerto Rico and where prohibited by law. Sweepstakes subject to complete official rules available at www.countryliving.com/horseshoe.

GONE COUNTRY

I GREW UP IN A FARM TOWN IN WEST TENNESSEE, where country music provided the soundtrack of every bonfire, ball game, and barbecue, but it wasn't until I moved away from the country that I really came to appreciate the genre. I found myself living in the middle of Manhattan—a place that (at the time) didn't even have a country radio station—and yearning for the comforts of home.

Skeptics may say that country music—modern-day country, in particular—is full of clichés (dirt roads, riverbanks, pickup trucks), but those things are cliché for a reason. In this hyper-connected world, I think more and more people crave a sense of escape, and country music lets you kick up your feet and do just that. And its message clearly resonates: Recently, country music surpassed all other genres to become the most popular musical format in the country (even New York City finally jumped on the bandwagon with its own station), and this issue is one big celebration of the laid-back living associated with the music.

So who better to help us celebrate all things country than the reigning queen of the category: Grammy Award-winning musician Miranda Lambert. Miranda and her musician husband Blake Shelton—you may know him from *The Voice* on NBC—live in Tishomingo, Oklahoma (population: 3,068), and trust me when I tell you that she is a breath of fresh country air. So down-to-earth, in fact, that she gamely posed on a porch swing in 20-degree weather in the middle of February. (See the outtake from this issue's cover shoot below. Yes, that is snow in the foreground.)

But even if you're not a country music fan, I know you'll find something in this issue that floats your (pontoon) boat, whether it's a gorgeous bedroom that just happens to be inspired by a classic song (page 50), a stylish barn that just happens to be owned by one-half of a popular musical duo (page 64), or a charming bungalow that just happens to belong to the granddaughter of a honky-tonk icon (page 82). Most of all, though, I hope it inspires you to put a little more country in your livin'.

Rachel

Rachel Hardage Barrett
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

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Introducing Country Living BACKSTAGE!

If you're headed to downtown Nashville June 11-14 for the Country Music Association's Music Festival (cmaworld.com/cma-music-festival), be sure to pick up a copy of *Country Living BACKSTAGE*, our must-have guide to Music City featuring insider tips and exclusive discounts for *Country Living BACKSTAGE* readers.



Miranda didn't complain once, despite being perched on this porch swing in freezing temps!



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MEET YOUR
GUEST EDITOR

MIRANDA LAMBERT



I'VE BEEN A COUNTRY LIVING READER for as long as I can remember. Every time I'm on my tour bus and I flip through the magazine, I can't wait to get home to try some new idea. It just feels like a little piece of home. So when the editors called to ask if I'd be up for guest editing the June issue—a celebration of country style through the lens of country music—I jumped at the chance. I grew up in Lindale, Texas, where the town motto is Good Country Living (really!), so you could say country life has been in my blood since birth. Even now, my husband Blake [Shelton] and I live in Tishomingo, Oklahoma, which is roughly two hours from any major city. There's just a peace that comes with country life. The beautiful thing about modern-day country music is that there's a little something for everyone, and I hope you find the same with this issue! Share your feedback with me at miranda@countryliving.com, or follow me on Instagram @[mirandalambert](https://www.instagram.com/mirandalambert).

A FEW OF MY ESSENTIALS FOR GOOD COUNTRY LIVING

(And Where You Can Find Them in This Issue!)



A PICKUP TRUCK >

(See page 35.) I've had Tammy, my candy apple red '55 Chevy stepside, since I was 17. It's named after Tammy Wynette, because that was the cassette tape in the player when I got it. Blake and I had it on display at our wedding, although I still won't let him drive it!

< A LITTLE RED WAGON (See page 22.)

I've been on a red wagon kick as of late, so I thought it would be fun to dream up a few DIY projects inspired by the childhood classic. My favorite idea has to be this three-tiered bar cart that would be right at home in my Oklahoma backyard.



< LOYAL SIDEKICKS (See page 54.) I've never *not* had a dog. Even when I was born, my family's Lab, Cooter Brown (left), would sleep under my crib. In 2007, I started the MuttNation Foundation devoted to ending animal cruelty and neglect. Recently, we took over the city shelter in Tishomingo and turned it into Redemption Ranch, a safe haven for animals in need. Visiting the Ranch recharges my batteries. I'll think, "This dog had it worse, so I'll just stop complaining and give this pup some love." *To donate, go to muttnationfoundation.com.*

A TRAVEL TRAILER >

(See page 72.) I'm on the road at least 150 days out of the year, and I have either my new Shasta (right) or my gutted 1954 Airstream with me almost every day. My Airstream's name is Wanda the Wanderer.



< A LAID-BACK APPROACH TO DECORATING Country style isn't about rules. It should be personal. Holly Williams (page 82), Ronnie Dunn (page 64), and Jolie Sikes-Smith of the Junk Gypsies (page 91) all have spaces that could be described as "country," but they're all so different. I love that.

Exclusively at YouTube.com/RamTrucks

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Dear Country Living

— READER PETS, PROJECTS, AND TOE-TAPPING TUNES! —



Your Ultimate Summer Playlist

Roll down your windows
and play these
reader picks on repeat.

"Country State of Mind"
by Hank Williams, Jr.

—Charles H. Norris, via Facebook

"Toes" by Zac Brown Band

—@theurbanbarnhouse, via Instagram

"Get Your Shine On"
by Florida Georgia Line

—@becklynn, via Twitter

"Strawberry Wine" by Deana Carter

—@kathleenmfuller, via Instagram

"Life Is a Highway" by Rascal Flatts

—@4seasonsmomma, via Twitter

"It's a Great Day To Be Alive"
by Travis Tritt

—Marcia Woodard, via Facebook

"On the Road Again" by Willie Nelson

—Dale Sapp, via Facebook

"Where the Green Grass Grows"
by Tim McGraw

—Kai J. Tolvanen, via Facebook

"Wagon Wheel" by Darius Rucker

—@hoodcreeklogcabin, via Instagram



To listen to the playlist,
go to countryliving.com/spotify.



Pet of the Month

The Garrett family of Lowell, NC, shared this snapshot of their rescue cat, Ninja—aptly named for his uncanny ability to pop up in unexpected spots. Case in point: this recent sighting of him atop the family's old-fashioned radio.



Nice work,
Charlotte!

TAKE A NUMBER!

Each morning, reader Charlotte Lasecki of Stevens Point, WI, chips away at a *Country Living* paint-by-number project (see page 108). Her goal? Complete the entire 2015 collection by year's end. Post your own CL masterpieces on Instagram with the tag [#CLPAINTBYNUMBER](https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/CLPAINTBYNUMBER).

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The CHECK List

COMPLETELY FUN, NO-OBLIGATION WAYS TO ENJOY THE COUNTRY THIS MONTH!



TURN UP THE COUNTRY!

From a new crop of music festivals to fresh finds with down-home charm, we've rounded up plenty of ideas for kicking back in style.



FIND A FESTIVAL NEAR YOU!

June is bursting at the seams with more than 20 major country events (see a small sampling below). Even New York City is getting in on the action with FarmBorough (June 26-28), its brand-new, boot-scootin' music festival on Randall's Island. Dierks Bentley, Luke Bryan, and Brad Paisley (shown above, left to right) will take the stage. farmboroughfestival.com

- **CMA MUSIC FESTIVAL, NASHVILLE, TN** (June 11-14); cmaworld.com
- **FLORIDA COUNTRY SUPERFEST, JACKSONVILLE, FL** (June 13-14); floridacountrysuperfest.com
- **COUNTRY JAM FESTIVAL, MACK, CO** (June 18-21); countryjam.com
- **WINDY CITY LAKE-SHAKE, CHICAGO, IL** (June 19-21); lakeshakefestival.com
- **BIG BARREL COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL, DOVER, DE** (June 26-28); bigbarrel.com

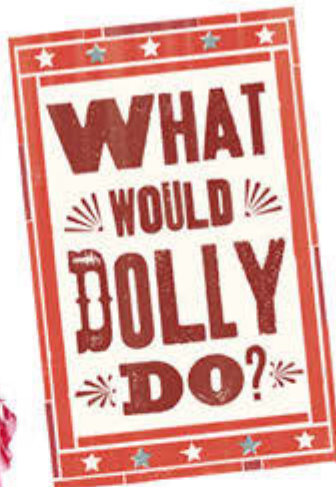
MORE TWANG FOR YOUR BUCK

We're tipping our (ten-gallon) hat to these fun finds with uniquely country flair.



Gingham Dress

Nashville native Katherine Todd designed this sweet sundress exclusively for CL readers. \$150; blithe.nyc



Dolly Print An 11" x 17" reminder to channel the wisdom of an icon. Also available in "What Would Willie Do?" \$25; goodsouth.etsy.com



Tire Swing

Smartly outfitted with a sturdy slated wood seat. \$298; shopterrain.com



Whiskey Barrel Coffee Table

A statement piece crafted from barrels used at Kentucky and Tennessee distilleries. \$850; winevine-imports.com



Mason Jar Fabric

This can-do quilting-weight fabric pays homage to a country favorite. \$5.50/half yard; icanoe2.com



Guitar Skillet

This cast-iron find can double as a spoon rest or serving tray. \$19; lodgemfg.com



Picnic Cooler

The retro-inspired container is cleverly equipped with a bottle opener. \$70; crateandbarrel.com



Denim Sofa

As versatile as a pair of blue jeans, this 72-inch-wide piece is great for small spaces. \$1,099; pbteen.com

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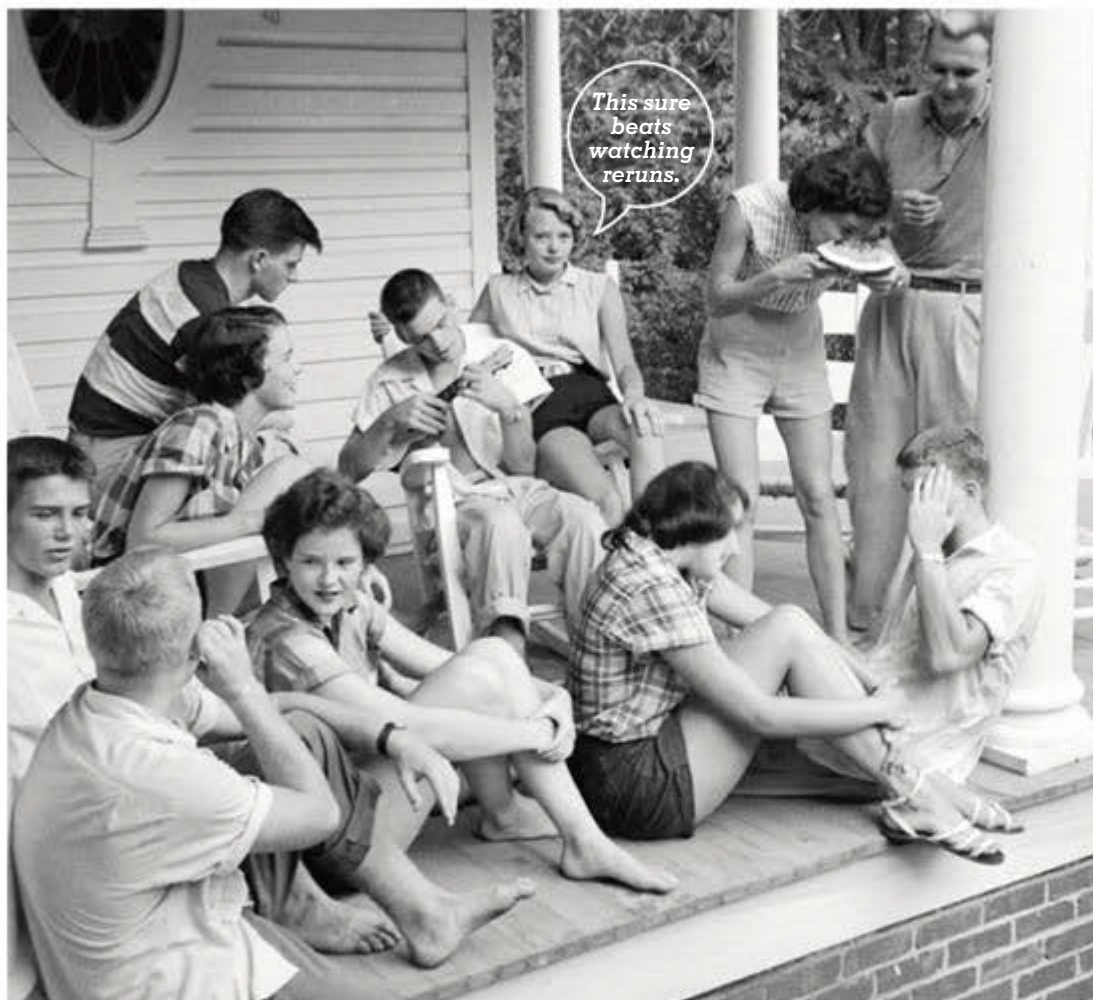
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✓ REVIVE THE LOST ART OF *Porching*

Before air-conditioning and television lured people indoors, front porch sitting was a bona fide American pastime. Take a stand (or seat!) this summer and vow to spend a little more time watching the world go by from the comfort of your rocking chair. Be sure to wave to the passersby or, better yet, invite them over to sit a spell.



PORCHING PICKS

Spruce up your stoop or while away the day with these affordable finds.



Watermelon Pillow
\$19; landofnod.com



Hot-Air Balloon Birdhouse
\$38; anthropologie.com



Yellow Playing Cards
\$6; amazon.com



Pressed Glass Pitcher
\$25; pier1.com

COUNTRY WISDOM

PAINT YOUR PORCH CEILING BLUE

Superstitious
Southerners often painted their porch ceilings “haint” blue, a soft blue-green, to ward off evil spirits called haints. Still, even if you’re not afraid of ghosts, a fresh coat of blue paint is a great way to add visual interest, so we asked a few of our favorite designers to share their tried-and-true blues.



Sea Salt, Sherwin-Williams

“Hints of gray make this subtle shade feel sophisticated, not overly sweet.” Holly Mathis, Brenham, TX; hollymathisinteriors.com



Quench Blue, Sherwin-Williams

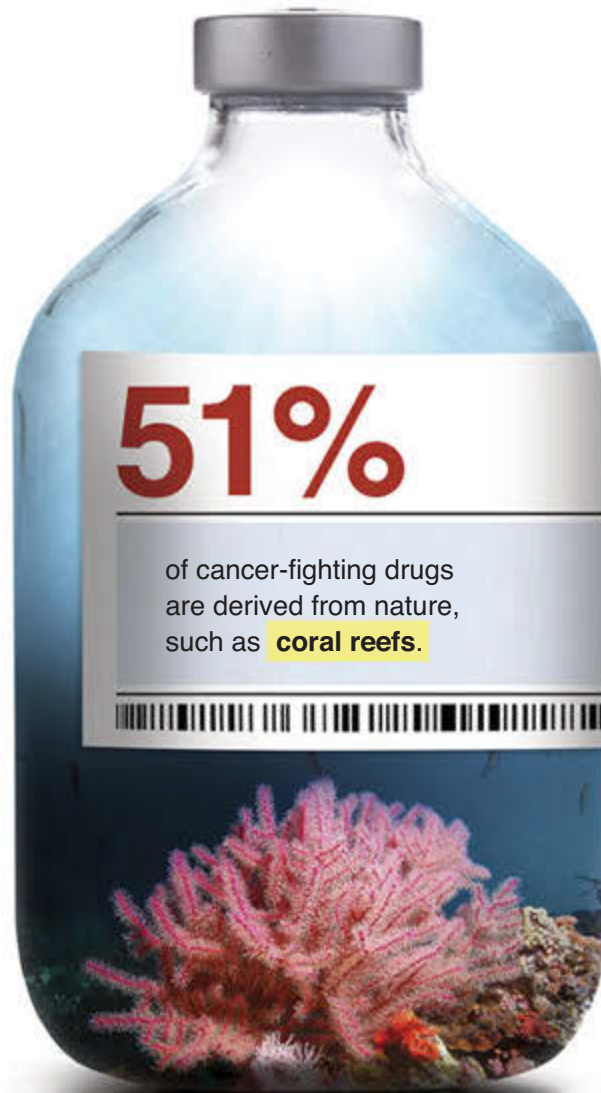
“I say go bright and vibrant for a happy, haint-free spot.” Lauren Liess, Washington, D.C.; laurenliess.com



Deep Royal, Benjamin Moore

“I prefer a rich navy—a striking contrast to light siding or brick.” Caitlin Wilson, Portland, OR; caitlinwilson.com

NATURE SAVES LIVES



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COUNTRY COMEBACK

✓ DECORATE WITH YELLOW

THIS HAPPY COLOR—CELEBRATED ON OUR APRIL 2003 COVER—IS HAVING ITS DAY IN THE SUN.



1. TUFTED CHAIR

Ornately turned legs add a bespoke feel. **Vaughn Chair**, \$189; target.com

2. SCENTED CANDLE

Infused with crisp lemon-grass and earthy sage. **Tin Candle**, \$22; leifshop.com

3. BEACH UMBRELLA

Sports a protective UPF 30 coating and a playful touch of fringe. **Cockatoos Umbrella**, \$100; sunnylife.com

4. THROW PILLOW

This textured pick is inspired by a flower. **Pillow**, \$95; company.com

5. OUTDOOR LANTERN

A bright take on a traditional 1900s German design. **Kerosene Lantern**, \$40; kaufmann-mercantile.com

6. LEMON NAPKINS

A screenprinted motif that won't sour. **Napkins**, \$16 for two; serenaandlily.com

7. AREA RUG

Hand-woven to create an ombré effect. **Surya Calvin Striped Area Rug**, \$175 for 3'6" x 5'6"; wayfair.com

8. DUVET COVER

Make the bed twice as stylish with a reversible design. **Riviera Duvet**, from \$175; ballarddesigns.com



ROLL OUT A LITTLE RED WAGON

These done-in-a-day projects add nostalgic style in and around the house.

1. BAR CART

Remove wheels and axles from three wagons of roughly the same size. For the bottom shelf, attach galvanized floor flanges on the inside four corners with nuts and bolts. Mount casters to underside. For the middle shelf, attach two floor flanges (one on the inside, one on the bottom) in all four corners with

nuts and bolts. For the top shelf, attach galvanized floor flanges on the bottom four corners with nuts and bolts. Next, use screws and Liquid Nails to adhere wooden dowels (ours were cut to one-foot lengths) to center of the flanges to build one unified structure. (For additional support, attach wire cross braces between the shelves.)

Not skilled with a drill?
Ask your local handyman to build this bar cart for you.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY DAVID HILLEGAS; STYLING BY MISSIE NEVILLE CRAWFORD.



2



4



3



5

2. WALL SHELF

Remove wheels and axles from a wagon. To create a shelf, measure the interior width and cut a board (a 1" x 2" piece will accommodate most wagons) and a $\frac{3}{8}$ " dowel to that width. Using 1-inch screws, drill to secure shelf in desired position; glue a dowel in place above. Repeat as desired. Affix a steel picture hook to the back to hang.

3. CREDENZA CATCHALL

Remove wheels and axles from a mini red wagon. (Try Radio Flyer's Toy Wagon for a similar look, \$20; radioflyer.com.) Apply adhesive furniture pads to the bottom to prevent scratching.

4. HANGING LUMINARY

Remove wheels and axles from a wagon and drill a hole in each corner. Insert an eye hook screw into each spot and secure with a nut. Place eye hook screws in ceiling to align with wagon corners. Loop rope through the wagon eye hooks and tie to those in ceiling. Adorn with LED candles and greenery.

5. DOG BED

Remove wheels and axles from a wagon. Next, cover a pillow insert (sizes will vary according to wagon dimensions) with a pet-friendly fabric and place in the bed of the wagon. Apply adhesive furniture pads to the bottom to prevent scratching.

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MEET HILLARY!

The seven-time Grammy winner hails from Nashville, TN.

MY KIND OF COUNTRY



GET TO KNOW...

HILLARY SCOTT

The co-lead singer of Lady Antebellum shares what's in her picnic basket, her musical inspiration, and more. (Psst: The band has a new decorative line, Heartland Home, out now at Bed, Bath & Beyond.)

DECORATING ESSENTIAL

"Throw pillows. Our house is lived in, and we want guests to feel comfortable here too." **Heartland Home Pillow**, \$40; *bedbathandbeyond.com*



CAN'T RESIST

"Mason jars. I use them to store everything from coffee to home-made garlic-infused olive oil."

Ball Jars, \$11 for six; *kmart.com*



BACKYARD MUST-HAVE

"A hanging chair! My daughter Eisele (1) and I swing together every night."

Swingasan Chair, \$300; *pier1.com*



SUMMER UNIFORM

"I give sundresses a casual spin with Chuck Taylor sneakers." **CTAS Pro**, \$65; *converse.com*



HAPPY PLACE

"On the road. As a child, I traveled to East Texas and South Carolina every summer to visit family. Acres of land, home cooking—it was perfect!"

Travel Tote, \$98; *shop.flowiestyle.com*



BRAKES FOR

"Roadside fruit stands. And stray animals, always." **Peaches Sign**, \$9; *thecommonsign.etsy.com*



COUNTRY ICON

"My first musical influence: my very talented mom, singer Linda Davis."

[Editor's Note: Linda is best-known for a Grammy-winning duet with Reba McEntire.]



PICNIC STAPLE

"Melamine plates and bowls are eco-friendly and kid-proof."

Plates, \$50 for four; *pendleton-usa.com*



FAVORITE BLOOM

"Fresh-cut hydrangeas make a dramatic statement with minimal effort." **Three-Month Hydrangea Subscription**, from \$186; *flowermuse.com*



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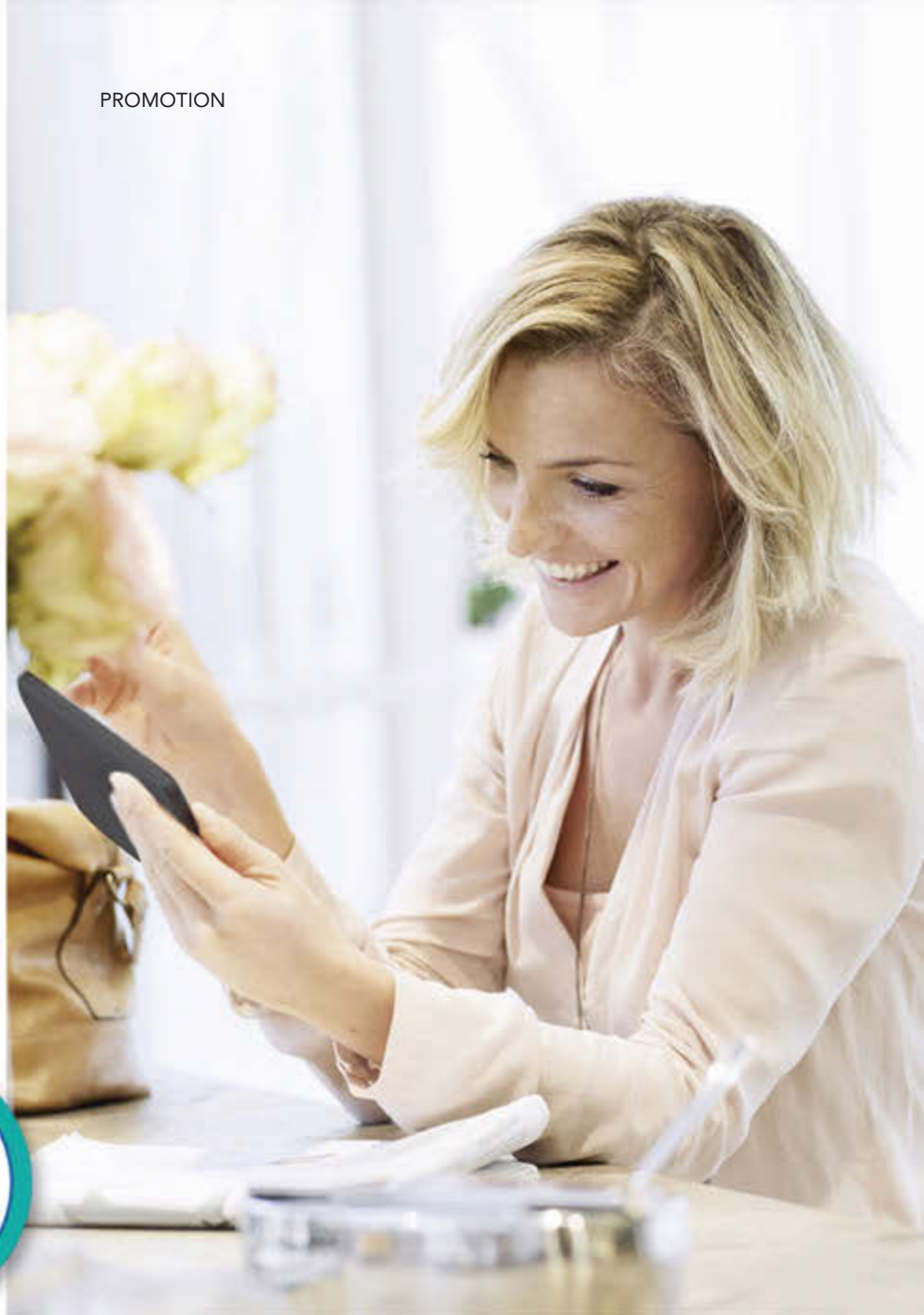
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to my family
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any interest?”

—N.S., GROSSE
POINTE, MI



ILLUSTRATIONS BY JULIA ROTHMAN PHOTOGRAPH BY DAVID HILLEGAS



WHAT IT IS:
WURLITZER JUKEBOX

This coin-operated piece belted tunes from a restaurant booth in the 1960s, when a half-dollar would have bought you seven songs. At the time, it was the newest in a series of musical innovations from Wurlitzer, which also pioneered the coin-operated electric piano, says Marsha Bemko of *Antiques Roadshow*, who consulted with show appraiser Brian Witherell. While floor-size Wurlitzers from the 1930s go for thousands of dollars, this one's small scale (18 inches tall) and more recent vintage bring in less.

WHAT IT'S WORTH:
\$70



"I've collected pitchers for years, and this one has always been my favorite. Does the pattern have a name?"

—J.H., KINGSPORT, TN

WHAT IT IS:
CALICO FRUIT PITCHER

Made by Ohio-based Universal Potteries, this colorful design is known as Calico Fruit. "The inexpensive decal-decorated dinnerware was targeted at the burgeoning post-WWII middle class," says antiques appraiser Helaine Fendelman.

WHAT IT'S WORTH:
\$35

GUESS THE WORTH

Crazy! Crooner Patsy Cline's famous red-and-white-fringed cowgirl ensemble has been valued at:

a) \$12,700 b) \$23,900 c) \$35,200

»» SEE PAGE 33 TO SEE IF YOU GUESSED CORRECTLY! →

"I purchased this belt at a flea market. Can you tell me more about the buckle?"

—L.C., CAMDEN, ME

WHAT IT IS:
STERLING SILVER BELT BUCKLE

This buckle is marked "R. Schaezlein & Son," the name of a San Francisco silver-smith founded in 1882 that was renowned for its Western wear. The backstamp dates this piece to the 1990s, explains Marsha Dixey of Heritage Auctions.

WHAT IT'S WORTH:
\$500





With a wall this beautiful,
of course you have to pay for it.



"I found these unused concert tickets in a dollar bin at a thrift shop that specializes in music ephemera. Did I strike gold?"

—R.K., LOOMIS, CA

WHAT IT IS:
JOHNNY CASH CONCERT TICKETS

"A ticket from Cash's 1950s and 60s heyday can go for \$75," says Marsha Dixey of Heritage Auctions, who consulted with Dean Harmeyer. Issued in 1973, these fetch less. They are unused, however, which is a desirable trait with vintage tickets of all kinds.

WHAT IT'S WORTH:

\$60 for three



"I inherited this ornate timepiece by way of my great-aunt Ruth. What's its story?"

—A.S., RICHMOND, VA

**WHAT IT IS:
BANJO CLOCK**

Introduced circa 1800 by famous Boston clockmaker Simon Willard, this type of ticker is formally known as a Willard's Patent Timepiece. But the nickname of "banjo clock" comes from the plucky instrument it resembles, says Marsha Bemko of *Antiques Roadshow*, who consulted with show appraiser Jonathan Snellenburg. They were made in large quantities and with relatively inexpensive materials throughout the 19th century, so condition and presence of original parts are the most important factors in determining value. Because this one's glass panels have been repainted and the acorn finial replaced, it won't command a premium at auction. One in pristine original condition would sell for closer to \$4,000.

WHAT IT'S WORTH:
\$2,000



"I gave this vintage hat to my husband for his birthday. What can you tell me about it?"

—C.C., TABOR, SD

**WHAT IT IS:
1960s STETSON HAT**

In 1865, John Batterson Stetson created the first cowboy hat. His design's wide brim shaded the neck and eyes, and when turned upside down, the crown could hold water for a horse or rider, says antiques appraiser Helaine Fendelman. This model, with its original box, dates to the 1960s. Despite a few small stains, the famed Stetson name brings a handsome estimate.

WHAT IT'S WORTH:
\$175

| GUESS THE WORTH |

A circa 1928 acoustic guitar belonging to music pioneer Maybelle Carter was purchased by the Country Music Hall of Fame for a sum of:

a) \$150,500 b) \$325,000 c) \$575,000

»» SEE PAGE 33 TO SEE IF YOU GUESSED CORRECTLY! →



"I picked this blanket up at a rummage sale last fall. Can you tell me what era it's from?"

—S.H., GARDEN GROVE, IA

**WHAT IT IS:
YO-YO QUILT**

"Hundreds of cotton circles were cut and hand-sewn together to make this coverlet," explains Marsha Bemko of *Antiques Roadshow*, who consulted with Deborah Miller. It was a popular style in the 1930s, when the Yo-Yo toy was an American fad, hence the quirky name.

WHAT IT'S WORTH:
\$275



**"I found this sign on Craigslist.
Is it a replica or vintage?"**

—M.C., ORLANDO, FL

**WHAT IT IS:
MARQUEE LIGHT**

"This 'A' is actually a new model, not an antique," says Marsha Dixey of Heritage Auctions. Newer signs, she explains, are made of thinner tin and often have crimped edges, whereas vintage ones feature cleanly shorn die-cut tin. The wiring is new, which also indicates that it's a reproduction. Were it authentic, it would be valued at around \$200.

WHAT IT'S WORTH:

\$50

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ANTIQUES ROADSHOW
- HELAINE FENDELMAN
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1001 V. et al. Effect of dog appeasing pheromone in reducing stress and fear-related behaviour in shelter dogs. *Appl. Anim. Behav. Sci.* 161, 3-4, 2015, pp. 295-306. 1001 V. et al. A placebo-controlled study to investigate the effect of Dog Appeasing Pheromone and other environmental and management factors on the reactivity of adult dogs and their training during the night in recently adopted puppies. *Appl. Anim. Behav. Sci.* 161, 3-4, 2015, pp. 307-318. 1001 V. et al. Evaluation of the effectiveness of synthetic DAP in reducing levels of arousal and improving learning in dogs. *Proc. 10th Int. Conf. on Dog Behaviour, Training and Health*, 2015. 1001 V. et al. Comparison of the efficacy of a synthetic dog appeasing pheromone with desensitization for the treatment of separation-related disorders in dogs. *The Vet. Rec.* Apr 2015, Vol 116, pages 533-538.

THE COLLECTOR'S GUIDE TO

PICKUP TRUCKS

From turn-of-the-century innovators to colorful 1960s classics, we've rounded up some of the most iconic rides from the golden age of American trucks.



Guest Editor Miranda Lambert poses with a pack of adorable rescue dogs and her 1955 Chevy. Above, a 1948 version of the same model. Valued at \$16,500, it's a pristine example of America's best-selling truck from 1947 to 1955.

For more info on the trucks featured here, contact Ragtop Picture Cars; ragtoppicturecars.com.



◀ 1915 INTERNATIONAL MWX

It's no mistake that the earliest trucks resembled wagons; they originated as a speedier version of a horse-and-buggy for rural consumers. This high-wheeler (the rims measure 36" tall) topped out at 20 mph, no care or feeding of horses required. Just 181 MWXs were made, making this a rare ride.

VALUE: \$35,000



◀ 1929 FORD MODEL A ROADSTER TRUCK

When the Model A debuted in 1927, it proved more user friendly than its Model T predecessor thanks to enhanced suspension and upgrades like exterior door handles. (Model T owners had to open doors by reaching inside the cabs.) Ford kept the price affordable at \$395 through ingenious (and eco-friendly!) practices like reusing shipping crates in the truck beds.

VALUE: \$22,000



◀ 1939 CHEVROLET HALF-TON

This shiny model was hailed as the best-looking truck in Chevrolet history. (Check out those fenders!) It was also a workhorse that could haul a 1,060-pound load and get over 20 miles per gallon. As with all post-Great Depression pickups, seats got wider and cushier for a more car-like cab.

VALUE: \$12,000

THERE'S SOMETHIN' ABOUT A TRUCK...

We're willing to wager that one in three country songs pays tribute to our favorite ride. To listen to this playlist of our favorite "pickup lines," go to countryliving.com/spotify.

1
"TRUCK YEAH,"
TIM MCGRAW

2
"MUD ON THE TIRES,"
BRAD PAISLEY

3
"I LOVE MY TRUCK,"
GLEN CAMPBELL



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◀ 1941 MACK ED ONE-TON

In 1938 Mack, along with fellow big rig makers like Federal, tried to get in on the pickup truck game. This model was the short-lived result. (When the U.S. entered World War II, the military became Mack's sole client.) They produced just 2,686 EDs between 1938 and 1941—all sporting the famous bulldog hood ornament. Only 50 are known to exist today.

VALUE: \$50,000



◀ 1955 INTERNATIONAL R120

Although the name has faded from memory, International, as well as other now defunct brands such as Studebaker and Diamond-T, were among some of the most successful pickup producers of the 20th century. At a time when a Ford hauler could cost upwards of \$3,000, this one could be had for only \$1,480—and that got you an all-the-rage two-tone paint job.

VALUE: \$15,000



◀ 1963 DODGE D-100

Dodge—part of the U.S.'s "Big Three" truck brands with Ford and Chevy—billed the D-100 as "low-slung, so you can step in and out almost as easily as a car." Big and boxy, it also had the best hauling capacity around. This example sports the original "Desert Turquoise" color, indicative of a time when aqua defined the automotive industry.

VALUE: \$4,000 (Dog not included!)





Carter strikes a pose (and a chord!) in her Upstate New York country house.

THE COLLECTING LIFE
—By—

Mary Randolph Carter

BEST OF THE WEST

Though I hail from Virginia and live in New York City, I'm a cowgirl at heart. The good ol' home-on-the-range style of **country-western collectibles** just sits pretty with me.

The fringe, the hand-tooled leather, the finely detailed embellishments stir up bygone days of buckaroos and campfires under the stars (not to mention a younger me parked in front of the TV strumming along on my toy ukulele with Roy Rogers looking on). Here are some of my favorite finds collected on those happy trails. Giddyup!



1 Wild West Artwork

Over the years I've scooped up an array of Western works that hangs in my carriage house in Upstate New York. Portraits of pioneer sisters (displayed in horse-hair frames) preside over a hodgepodge of equestrian prints and out-West scenes. The hats accenting the artwork are stained with the honest sweat of the cowboy's brow.

TIP: A vignette grouped around a theme, like the country-western one shown above, can elevate the aesthetic of thrift shop finds.

2 Leather Briefcase

My junking buddy Laurie Warner gifted me this ornate briefcase. The handsome specimen found by her mom at a Santa Fe flea market was a gift to her husband. Didn't bother him at all that another man's name—Robert A. Murrow of Raton, New Mexico—was tooled on the front.

TIP: Old leather briefcases can be heavy and thus impractical to tote around. If you love their look, consider hanging several from wall hooks for a stylish storage spot.



3 Cowboy Figurine

"Yippee yi yo kayak" was immortalized by Bing Crosby in the 1930s when he sang "I'm An Old Cowhand." To me, that's always seemed like the perfect theme song for this duded-up doll I found years ago at the Rose Bowl Flea Market in Los Angeles (rgcshows.com). Doncha just love his true-grit style?



4 Gambler's Vest

I love to wear this circa 1945 vest over a faded chambray or checked flannel shirt. But I'm just as happy to see it displayed on the back of my closet door. Made of soft leather and finished with charming beadwork, it must have been created for a gambler given the faint outline of dice and hearts, spades, clubs, and diamonds.



5 Joy Banjo

I found this trusty, rusty tin banjo at Scott Antique Markets (scottantiquemarket.com) in Atlanta for \$1.

Travel can expose you to new collecting resources, but it can also restrict the size of what you can purchase, unless of course you travel by car or, better yet, by truck!



"The fringe, the hand-tooled leather, the finely detailed embellishments stir up bygone days of buckaroos and campfires under the stars."

6 Straw Guitar

This little number is a reminder of my long-gone guitar-playing days (when Joan Baez and Bob Dylan were making music together!). At \$100, it was a high price for my junker's taste, but I've always believed it likely to be a legitimate piece of folk art from down Mexico way.



7 Hudson the Hobbyhorse

Take a broomstick and an old sock; add eyes, a mane of bristly yarn, felt ears, and a red bridle of trim, and you've got yourself a bona fide hobbyhorse. I found my sweet old pony tied up and ready to go last year at The Hudson Mercantile in Hudson, New York (hudsonantiques.net). By the way, old toys are best played with by grown-ups who are children at heart.

8 Red Cowgirl Boots

In my early years in New York City, I worked for a fashion magazine and my best friend Jann Johnson was a fabulous shoe designer. She created these red boots, adorned with a garden of colorful tooled flowers, for me. What a sensation they caused striding down Fifth Avenue! Today I've retired my boots; stuffed with newspaper, they stand upright on a shelf in my studio.



TIP: Leather stretches over time, so you may want to go down a size when shopping for vintage boots.

COUNTRY LISTINGS

Hello, wide-open spaces! These historic homes come with 10 acres and more.



◀ STOW, ME (12 ACRES) \$339,900

In addition to scenic acreage (we're talking fields, forests, *and* water frontage), this stately 3,000-square-foot dwelling has a sleek new kitchen with granite countertops.
Agent: Bernadette Friberg; badgerrealty.com



LANSING, NC (20.8 ACRES) ▶ \$370,000

Built in 1884, this 2,520-square-foot Victorian charmer features covered front and side porches and a root cellar perfect for storing canned produce from the garden.
Agent: Jean Ann Leander; highcountryrealtync.com



▲ WILLIAMSBURG, PA (11.8 ACRES) \$299,000

Take up residence in the property's historic log cabin while you complete renovations on the 3,000-square-foot main home—a stunning circa 1766 gem built using cut limestone.
Agent: Nancy Frantz; mynewdreamhouse.com



▲ PAYETTE, ID (19.6 ACRES) \$235,000

Kick back on the roomy wraparound deck of this 106-year-old, 1,799-square-foot rural Idaho home. Other can't-miss details: a circular driveway and spacious workshop.
Agent: John Evans; evansrealtyllc.com



TIM &
FAITH
SLEPT
HERE!

HAVE \$18,500,000 TO SPARE? Scoop up this sprawling 621-acre Tennessee property. Located in Franklin, it features six homes, a 12-stall barn, and spring-fed ponds. Country power couple Faith Hill and Tim McGraw are the current owners, but its country roots run even deeper: Hank Williams, Sr., once called it home.
Agent: Steve Fridrich; fridrichandclark.com

It's where

you'll make pancakes at 2 in the morning.

It's where you'll perform epic shower concerts.

It's where you'll tell her she's gonna be a sister.

It's where you'll long to be when you're anywhere else.

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home sweet home

INSPIRING IDEAS FOR IN AND AROUND THE HOUSE



Turn This Country Song Into a Room!

We took style cues from classic tunes to drum up three inviting spaces.

FABRIC SWATCHES: DAVID HILLEGAS



"WALK THE LINE"

by Johnny Cash

The straight and narrow never looked so good! From colorful fabric pillows to dashing window treatments, this living room proves stripes are the (style) tie that binds.

1

STRIPED WALLS AND DRAPERIES

Here, 1" x 4" pine boards, spaced about a foot apart, offer the look of custom paneling at a fraction of the price. Curtains in narrow vertical stripes break up the wall's horizontal lines. **Riley in Verde**, \$20/yard; lsfabrics.com

2

PATTERNED PILLOWS

Multi-stripe pillows in complementary hues band together to dress up a neutral sofa. **LEFT TO RIGHT: Hinsdale Woven Stripe in Coral/Olive by Brunswick & Fils**, available through DCOTA; 954-921-7575. **Picnic Pinstripe** (see "Know Your Stripes" below). **Burlap Stripe Cover**, \$26; bouteillechic.etsy.com. **Sofa**, \$900; worldmarket.com

3

PAINTED CHAIR

A wide white stripe, applied to the chair's center using fabric paint (available at craft stores), packs a graphic punch. Above, a mix of framed prints pays tribute to famed country crooner Johnny Cash. **Sun Records Print**, \$20; boxingbear.etsy.com

4

BLACK TRUNK

Inspired by the Man in Black, this vintage trunk-turned-coffee table anchors the room and offsets the bold rug. **Orange and Pelican Gray Rug**, from \$73 for 2' x 3'; caronsbeachhouse.com



KNOW YOUR STRIPES

TICKING

A tightly woven cotton or linen first used in mattresses. **Stripe in Ivory/Green**, \$7/yard; fabric.com

PINSTRIPE

This narrow stripe is often used in men's suiting. **Picnic in Chartreuse (on pillows)** by **JF Fabrics**, \$75/yard; fabricsandhome.com

GRAINSACK

These stripes usually indicated which farm a sack belonged to. **Grainsack**, \$25/yard; thepeddlersplace.etsy.com

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Ethan | at age 4
brain cancer

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1

2

3

4

5

6



"EVEN COWGIRLS GET THE BLUES"

by Emmylou Harris

Patterned prints in varying shades of blue get a rugged twist with cowgirl-approved accents such as weathered boots and a rustic pine dresser.

1

HORSE ART

Saddle up! This whitewashed filly—reminiscent of an old-school weathervane topper—evokes a country-western vibe without feeling trite. Its large size and eye-catching shape give it the power to stand out amid the room's varying patterns. **Art**, \$79; *slippin southern.etsy.com*

2

A MIX OF PATTERNS

Here, the headboard's large-scale print serves as the jumping-off point for the room's bold mix of motifs. In a smaller scale and lighter hue, the comforter's subtle checks look cohesive, not clashing. Ornately patterned pillows provide a visual counter to the bed's double dose of gingham. **Checkmate in Blueberry (headboard)**, \$18/yd; *calicocorners.com*. **Solange in 197-Marine by Duralee (Euro shams)**, available through DCOTA; 954-921-7575. **Clara B in Baltic Blue by Sister Parish Design (accent pillow)**; available through DCOTA; 954-921-7575

3

POPS OF BLUE

From chambray-like draperies and the periwinkle-tinged rug to the cornflower throw pillows, a major wash of

blue can feel right as rain.

Grasscloth in Glacier by Roth & Tompkins (on draperies), \$19/yd; *buyfabrics.com*.

Tattersall Rug in Blue/Cream, from \$33 for 2' x 3'; *dashand albert.com*. **Lake's Mirage Wall Paint**; *prattandlambert.com*

4

WHITE ACCESSORIES

Milky-white accents, such as the lamp base and shade and dresser drawer pulls, provide the ideal contrast in the largely monochromatic space.

5

SHEET MUSIC VASE

A simple cylindrical vase decoupaged with sheet music and filled with white peonies hits a high note. (This DIY idea also makes for fun party decor. Try covering a vase with "The Star Spangled Banner" on the Fourth of July or your favorite Christmas carol during the holidays.)

6

WOODEN FURNITURE

Topped with cowboy boots, a worn bench with a sweet scalloped edge offsets the buttoned-up mix of prints, while a natural pine dresser adds warmth to the otherwise cool-toned space. **For similar boots**, *vintagecowboyboots.etsy.com*



Don't feel limited to one tone! The hint of green in this robin's egg upholstery warms up the room's true-blue palette.



KNOW YOUR CHECKS

PLAID

Woven to create a crossbarred pattern. **Mill Pond Check by Ralph Lauren**, \$126/yd; *decoratorsbest.com*

GINGHAM

A small-scale fabric that can act as a neutral. **Linley Gingham in Dream Blue (on duvet)**, \$25/yd; *calicocorners.com*

WINDOWPANE

These generous squares resemble the panes on a window. **Unscripted in Chambray**, \$104/yd; *calicocorners.com*



"FLOWERS ON THE WALL"

by The Statler Brothers

Thanks to cheery vintage finds and an unabashedly feminine fabric, this nature-inspired breakfast nook sings a happy tune.

1

CLIMBING VINES

Cultivate an indoor vertical garden with a rambling vine wallpaper. The small-scale pattern provides a muted-enough backdrop for bolder statement pieces. **Mini Vine Wallpaper**, \$43/roll; yorkwall.com

2

A HEALTHY DOSE OF FLORALS

No shrinking violets here! Paired with the wallcovering, vintage metal trays featuring bold buds add interest without overwhelming the space. Floral draperies (see "Know Your Florals" below) reinforce the lush look.

3

CLASSIC FURNITURE

A quartet of soft gray Windsor chairs and an heirloom-worthy pedestal table balance the pattern play on the walls. **Ronan Extension Table**, \$450; pier1.com. **Tucker Chairs in Fog**, \$188 each; serenaandlily.com

4

RECORD-SHAPED RUG

Echoing the table's round top, a jute area rug grounds the space. To the left, a vintage-inspired turntable stylishly cranks out tunes. **8' Reversible Jute Rug**, \$182; overstock.com. **Crosley Turntable**, \$186; amazon.com



KNOW YOUR FLORALS

DITSY

A small-scale, all-over pattern. **Jewelstone Classics Small Floral in Magenta**, \$7/yard; fabric.com



BOUQUET OF BLOOMS

A bold multi-floral fabric; often a starting point for a room's palette. **Waverly Spring Bling (on draperies)**, \$45/yard; joann.com



SINGLE FLOWER

A single bloom on repeat; makes a major graphic statement. **Charlottenberg in Chartreuse**; [designers guild.com](http://designersguild.com) for stores

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Make decorating simple.

ASK A COUNTRY VET

Animal expert **DR. TRICIA EARLEY** answers your questions about DIY dog grooming, bringing home a pet pig, and more.



Q My basset hound, Hank, hates trips to the groomer. I'm considering clipping his nails on my own. What should I look for in a nail trimmer?

-R.R., KUNA, ID

A There are a lot of clipper varieties out there, so ask your veterinarian or groomer if you can experiment with a few options to see what makes you (and your pup!) most comfortable. Guillotine trimmers—which have a hollow ring to stabilize the nail—are my favorite. I find they offer good accuracy. If you're nervous about snipping the quick (the sensitive part of the nail closest to the paw), you may want to consider a battery-powered grinder, which simply sands the nails down. The gradual process helps avoid missteps. Whatever you choose, take your time and stay relaxed. Hank will take cues from your demeanor.



Q I have two young children and would like to get them a few pet fish. Can you recommend a colorful variety with a long life expectancy?

-K.W., NOBLEBORO, ME

A My three top picks for pet fish are guppies (shown above), tetras, and diamond tetras. They all have bright markings and are very active, which means your little ones can enjoy watching them swim and dart about. They also thrive in a community. (This trait contrasts betta fish, a popular pet store variety that is prone to fighting fellow tank mates.) When welcoming home your new pets, I recommend using an aquarium, which provides a more natural environment than a fish bowl. In a regularly cleaned tank, you can expect your underwater friends to live three to five years.

NUDGE THEM BACK WITH A TASTE OF HOME.

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- ✓ A 'straight from the grill' taste your dog will love
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Blue Buffalo and Petco are committed to finding a cure for pet cancer, the #1 disease-related cause of death for our dogs and cats.

And you can help by making a donation at your Petco store during Pet Cancer Awareness Month in May or by visiting **PetCancerAwareness.org**.



Q I've always wanted a teacup-size pig but have heard stories of them growing much larger than promised. Is it possible to predict how large a pig will be in adulthood?

-H.T., LIBERAL, KS

A Unfortunately, many breeders advertise piglets as teacup, nano, or micro with the promise that they'll stay tiny. What they don't advertise are facts: It would take a Goliath-size teacup to hold a so-called nano pig as an adult. Many easily top 300 pounds! Some breeders will point to the size of the parents as a promise of small stature. But that is no guarantee—pigs can begin breeding at 3 months but don't reach full size until 5 years old. Bottom line? If you're interested in owning a pig, be prepared for the possibility that it may pack on the pounds.



HAVE A PET QUESTION?

Drop Dr. Earley a line at countryvet@countryliving.com



“We used to live with litter box odor. Now that we use BLUE Naturally Fresh, the smell is gone.”

For most cat parents, the biggest factor in choosing a cat litter is odor control. That's why BLUE Naturally Fresh® is made from walnut shells. **In lab tests, Naturally Fresh proved to neutralize odor better than litters made of pine, wheat, corn or clay.***

And when it comes to absorption, our walnut shell litter also proved superior. In fact, because BLUE Naturally Fresh Quick-Clumping litter has up to 3x better absorbency, one bag of Naturally Fresh can last as long as three bags of the leading clay litter.*

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BlueNaturallyFresh.com

Available in Quick-Clumping, Multi-Cat, Non-Clumping Pellet, Alpine Meadow® and Herbal Attraction® formulas.

*In separate independent studies commissioned by Blue Buffalo, BLUE Naturally Fresh Quick-Clumping litter was found to: (i) have a liquid absorption capacity at least three times greater per ounce than the leading clay-based litter; (ii) control ammonia odors better than the leading clumping litters; and (iii) form harder clumps than the leading pine, corn and wheat clumping litters.

†BLUE Naturally Fresh litter is biodegradable if composted or disposed of in a similar fashion. Landfill disposal of litter in plastic bags is not conducive to biodegradation.

Bring the Outside.

137-year-old
Gruene Hall in
New Braunfels, TX
(gruenehall.com)

G R U E N E
Hall

SAVE THE TEXAS DANCE HALLS!

In the 1800s, nearly 1,000 small-scale dance halls sprung up in Texas. Today, 400 remain intact, with only two operating daily. To learn how you can help preserve these historic sites, visit texasdancehall.org.

→ Inside!

We used this photo of Texas's oldest dance hall to pull together floor-to-ceiling picks for **A ROCKIN' DEN**.

PAINT

Gray undertones make this purple pick surprisingly neutral.

Dusk to Dawn, \$38/gallon; benjaminmoore.com for stores

TEXAS PRINT

This handmade piece features recycled sheet music. **Print**, \$18 for 11" x 14"; artpause.etsy.com



FLOOR LAMP

This iron base and shade towers with country-meets-industrial style. **Base**, \$150, and **Shade**, \$60; both from worldmarket.com



SOFA

Get down! This feather-filled blue sofa is a comfy spot to sit one out. **Sofa in Midnite**, \$1,149; wayfair.com



CHAIR

Cozy up 'til the cows come home with this animal-friendly slipper chair.

Cowhide Chair, \$144; overstock.com



DECANTER SET

There's no dancing around the charm of a decanter and glassware set engraved with a down-home greeting.

Decanter Set, \$125; biscuit-home.com (10% off with code countryliving10.)



PILLOW COVER

A vibrant hand-painted swath of color is a solid sofa's perfect partner. **Pillow**, \$20; society6.com



SPEAKER DOCK

The oversize metal horn amps up the sound the (sort of) old-fashioned way—no electricity required! **Gramophone**, \$199; rh.com



CONSOLE

Close the shutters on clutter with this birch-veneered storage unit. **Smart Furniture Console**, \$895; smartfurniture.com



TRAVELTEX.COM > THINGS TO DO > COWBOY



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CHUCK WAGON DINING



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FOR THE

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WHOLE OTHER COUNTRY

CountryLiving

June 2015



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pattern at
[countryliving.com/
cross-stitch!](http://countryliving.com/cross-stitch/)

XXXXXXX

(Our Copy Chief Katie
Bowlby stitched the
one you see here.)



Miranda Lambert,
photographed by
PAUL COSTELLO
in White Bluff,
Tennessee



WHAT'S COUNTRY NOW

Country music has never been hotter, and neither has the laid-back, down-home look associated with the genre (as you'll see on the following pages!).

Here, **Guest Editor Miranda Lambert** shares her personal take on the lifestyle behind the music.

Today's country is...

...INVITING

"When you visit someone in the country, they better offer you a glass of iced tea—in a Mason jar, of course. It's cliché because it's true. Some of my best conversations have happened over the clink-clink of iced tea in a jar. It's the soundtrack of country life."

...RELAXED

"I write best when I'm home on my porch with my guitar. There's something calming about looking out at wide-open spaces and trees as far as you can see. The country is perfect for letting your mind drift to a creative place."

...COLLECTED

"I love all things vintage, and I have a growing collection of salt-and-pepper shakers. I have about 50 sets right now, and it's getting out of control."

My favorite—a '55 Chevy with an Airstream—came from a fan."

...PET-FRIENDLY

"We're building a new house, and I've been saving inspiration on Pinterest. A friend of mine recently said, 'I can see your Pinterest boards, and all you have on there are dog rooms.' My husband [singer Blake Shelton] and I have 15 rescue animals, and I spend way too much time planning our pets' spaces."

I'm like, okay, I probably need to move on to the laundry room!"

...HOMEGROWN

"My dad taught me to live off the land. I now have my own garden, but Blake is really the gardener. This year, we're planting tomatoes and strawberries to make jam. I have a little downtime this summer, so I'm looking forward to this task."

...FEARLESS

"I'm inspired by the free-spirited decorating style of the Junk Gypsies [see page 91]. They're about empowering women and being creative and embracing yourself. Sometimes I think people second-guess themselves, like 'It's too much color or it's too big or too loud.' They're the queens of 'It doesn't have to match,' and I love that. My decorating mantra is 'What would the Gypsies do?' I really need to put that on a T-shirt."

...IMPERFECT

"Growing up, my house was basically condemned when we got it, but my mother was determined to make it awesome. It had mismatched carpet, and the halls were creaky. But those little things that were imperfect were what made it perfect. It's funny, because I had friends with really nice houses—with pools!—and they always wanted to come to our house. I think our home just had love. I think that's why country music resonates with so many people. It's not about being perfect. It's real."



RAISING THE BARN

BARN DOORS. POPLAR PANELING. ROPES GALORE. THINK IT SOUNDS CLICHÉ? NOT SO FAST. COUNTRY SUPERSTAR RONNIE DUNN'S TENNESSEE RETREAT HITS ALL THE RIGHT NOTES.



WRITTEN BY CAROLINE COLLINS MCKENZIE
PHOTOGRAPHS BY PAUL COSTELLO STYLING BY SARAH CAVE



MEET THE DUNNS!

Ronnie and his wife, Janine, relax on their spacious porch in the company of their Rottweiler, Anna, and miniature schnauzer, Jackson.





This table was a wedding gift from June Carter and Johnny Cash!



Ronnie Dunn is not one to rush things. He looked for years to find the perfect property where he could pursue the outdoor activities he loves: fishing, hiking, and horse-back riding. When he came across 600 acres outside of Nashville, he knew he'd (finally!) found his spot. "It has huge bluffs and ponds, and Big Turnbull Creek cuts through. It was the kind of geographic drama I'd been searching for," says Ronnie.

The country music star (he's half of Grammy-winning duo Brooks & Dunn) was equally measured in building a home on the property. Instead of completing it in one fell swoop, he let the structure—and its purpose—evolve over time. "The original idea was to build a tractor shed," explains Ronnie. "But then I got to thinking it would be nice to have a place to socialize. And cook. And spend the night. From there I just started having fun with it!" The result: a 44-foot-wide x 88-foot-long barn-inspired structure with four bedrooms, two baths, and one large open living space. When building "the barn," as Ronnie calls it, his first objective was to highlight the surrounding natural beauty. Though barns are traditionally without windows, Ronnie's interpretation features large ones (some are 10 feet tall), which allow the sweeping views to be an integral part of the design. Similarly, the seating area's glass doors open to a lounge-like porch, creating a true indoor/outdoor living space.

SITTING AREA

The towering white wingbacks and impressive antler chair demonstrate the home's cozy-and-inviting meets rough-and-tough aesthetic.

WET BAR

With the help of designer Rachel Halvorson, Ronnie designed a 13-foot-tall limestone-backed bar that showcases the home's soaring ceilings.



KITCHEN

To maximize storage, one half of the island contains a series of baskets and bins; the other half has an additional work surface mounted with casters to roll away when not in use.



When it came to building materials, Ronnie opted for hardy, can-take-a-beating options in keeping with the barn aesthetic. “My goal was to make it as utilitarian as possible,” he says. “I tried to choose things that felt at home in the country—nothing too delicate.” Among those selections: 12-inch-wide white oak plank floors secured with vintage square-head nails; a substantial limestone mantel and towering field-stone fireplace; and poplar paneling in varying widths hung vertically and painted a creamy white to create an airy ambience that accentuates the soaring 25-foot ceilings. Together, the design elements create subtle texture that complements the property views instead of competing with them.

Sliding barn doors with a traditional

Z-brace frame complete the bucolic vibe. They’re especially striking in the upstairs hallway, where a series of five flanks an antique American flag. It bears 45 stars, which dates it to around 1896.

With the basics of the house pinned down, Ronnie had one more task: convincing his wife, Janine, to love it as much as he did. To sway her, he enlisted Nashville designer Rachel Halvorson to add a layer of refinement to the rustic home. First up: the kitchen, where an abundance of moody gray cabinetry, limestone countertops, and stainless steel appliances add luxe elements to the rough-hewn space. There, Rachel also introduced a key part of her design for the house: light fixtures that up the wow factor in each room.



SPOTLIGHT ON VINTAGE AMERICAN FLAGS

In 1912 President Taft issued an executive order setting out guidelines for the country’s flag. Prior to that, makers were free to interpret the configuration of white stars in a blue field as they saw fit. Some stitched them in the straight rows (as we do today); others created a concentric circle or a single large star made up of smaller ones. The resulting variety of designs makes specimens predating the ordinance prized collectibles. (Ronnie’s circa 1896 flag is a prime example.) To find flags from this era, visit jeffbridgeman.com.



A photo of an Appaloosa horse anchors this cozy nook.



GUEST BEDROOM

A warm putty-hued ceiling (the only non-white wall or ceiling in the house) creates a cozy effect in the guest quarters.

BATHROOM

The barn door theme continues in an unexpected spot: a shower stall! Just outside, a towel bar hangs from two ropes.

MASTER BEDROOM

An antique barn door track gets a second life as a picture rail above the tufted burlap headboard.

Starting with three 16" polished nickel pendants, she designed a custom pulley framework for them using barnwood and steel. The final product is a sleek showpiece that can hold its own above the 13-foot-long kitchen island.

Rachel also worked to balance the masculine furniture Ronnie had already acquired (a large brown leather sofa and an antler-adorned chair, for example) with a layer of softness, introducing white slipcovered armchairs in both the sitting area and around the dining table. "The choice seemed impractical," Ronnie says. "But the slipcovers are actually perfect for out here. Just throw them in the washing machine. She converted me!"

Throughout the rest of the house, Rachel maintained the laid-back, no-fuss atmosphere by keeping the palette neutral and focusing on organic textures (lots of linen and rope) and raw materials (metal, wood, and stone). From the porch to the bathrooms,

the selections add a sophisticated layer that feels equal parts polished and pastoral. Their appeal is best showcased in the guest bedroom (top left), where a novel rope bed, also designed by Rachel, anchors the space. Accented with a blue-and-white Swiss cross blanket, a seagrass rug, and a hanging tobacco basket, the room is full-on country without feeling too theme-y. Ample ivory curtains complete the look by framing the outdoor scenery and adding just the right amount of feminine flair.

With the home at last complete (and dozens of hiking and four-wheeler trails forged in the meantime), Ronnie's barn has become a favorite gathering spot for the entire Dunn crew. (Yes, even Janine.) It is especially beloved by his young grandsons Huxton, age 3, and Ryder, age 1. "We fish, we watch baby eagles fly, we have big family meals. It's everything I wanted for this place—and way better than a tractor shed."

"There is a quietness and peace here that I can't find anywhere else."



ROPE

"The cheapest, fastest way to up the rusticity in a room. Try wrapping it around the chain of a light fixture."

Manila Rope, from 5 cents/square foot; knotandrope.com



AMERICAN FLAG

"The house's neutral color scheme makes our large American flag even more of a focal point."

36" x 60" Flag, \$31; countryporch.com



MERCURY GLASS

"It adds a reflective element without feeling glamorous."

Delila Bottles, \$29/set of three; homedecorators.com

WHAT MAKES MY HOME COUNTRY

"Simple materials and timeless accents make our 'barn' feel like it's been here forever."

—Ronnie Dunn



INDUSTRIAL LIGHTING

"Heavy-duty fixtures are my go-to for interiors and exteriors."

Bell Pendant Lamp with Rustic Cage, \$250; claytongrayhome.com



PORCH SWING

"There's nothing like napping outdoors in the comfort of a hanging bed. It's also a great spot for songwriting."

Original Beersheba Swing, \$1,450; woodstudio.com



SLIPCOVERED FURNITURE

"Throughout the house we opted for pieces that merge style with practicality."

Belgian Wingback Armchair, \$569; rh.com



BARN DOORS

"Sliding doors not only add country appeal—they're also a great space-saver!"

Z-Brace Door in Driftwood Gray, \$710; realslidinghardware.com



KING of the ROAD

Calling all wayfarers, sightseers, nature-lovers, and adventure-seeking retirees! Here's how to make your travel trailer dreams come true without—make that *with!*—a hitch.



WRITTEN BY **CAROLINE COLLINS MCKENZIE**
PHOTOGRAPH BY **BRIAN WOODCOCK**
STYLING BY **ALISON ALLSOPP** AND **JAMI SUPSIC**



Turn to
page 76 to
peek inside
this 1973
Airstream
Argosy.



H, THE PLACES YOU'LL GO! There's a travel trailer renaissance happening across the country, and fortunately the new wagons-on-wheels are much more livable (and stylish!) than the Oregon Trail varieties of yesteryear. From iconic Airstreams to futuristic-looking new options (like the made-in-Portland American Dream; see bottom right), baby boomers and twentysomethings alike are joining the nationwide caravan. In fact, according to Airstream president Bob Wheeler, the company just had a record-setting 2014, making it the best year in its 83-year history. Ride along with us as we celebrate the new mobile home-away-from-home.

KNOW YOUR TRAVEL TRAILERS

Can't distinguish a Shasta from a Cricket? Use this handy guide to some of the most fun new models on the market.



Shasta Airflyte, from \$15,990; terrytownrv.com



Dub-Box Camper, from \$18,000; dub-box-usa.com



Airstream Sport, from \$42,334; airstream.com



The Cricket, from \$21,700; crickettrailer.com

Tab Max Q, from \$14,384; tab-rv.com



A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE



1836

A migrant wagon train travels from Independence, MO, to Fort Hall, ID, in what was arguably the first "camper" caravan.



1888

Vincent Van Gogh paints *The Caravans*, an early depiction of travelers with horse-drawn trailers.



Happier Camper, from \$16,000; happiercamper.com



Orangedrop, from \$12,300; riverrimteardrops.com



Woody Tailgater, from \$21,000; silvertears campers.com



The American Dream, from \$8,900; american dream trailers.com

HITCH A WAGON TO A STAR

Country artists sure do love their campers. Here's a sneak peek inside the (very compact) spaces of some of country's biggest names.



▲ **MIRANDA LAMBERT** "I'll just admit it: My 1954 Airstream is basically a rolling bar. It builds camaraderie on the road after shows."



▲ **DIERKS BENTLEY** "Right now 'The Silver Fox' is parked up on a ridge in 90 acres of woods. I look forward to exploring East Tennessee in it."



▲ **LEE ANN WOMACK** "I get a big grin on my face every time my daughters and I roll out of the drive for one of our many girls' trips."



1908

After a year of traveling by trailer, Thomas Hiram Holding publishes *Camper's Handbook*, giving rise to the modern camping movement in the United States.

1929

The trailblazing Airstream is born in California, when creator Wally Byam builds a teardrop-shaped contraption onto the chassis of his Model T.



1953

A 36-foot Redman trailer is featured in the film *The Long, Long Trailer* starring Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz.

THE THREE-DAY AIRSTREAM MAKEOVER

Country Living style editors took a 1973 Argosy Airstream from drab to dreamy.



▲ THE CHALLENGE

Owner Heidi Byerly of Atlanta, GA, gamely handed over the keys to her trailer and gave us a weekend to give it an overhaul. Here's how our industrious style editors made over the 22-footer.

VINYL FLOORING

We swapped the dingy shag carpet with a custom (and easy-to-clean) floor by Graphic Image, a company that will turn any design or photograph into vinyl flooring. graphicimageflooring.com



DURABLE SEATING

Zippered cushion covers, made from an indoor/outdoor fabric in a timeless herringbone pattern, are easy to toss in the wash. sunbrella.com

A FRESH COAT OF PAINT

White paint (*Silver Lining*, Pratt & Lambert) on the overhead lockers and a sky blue (*In Your Eyes*, Benjamin Moore) on the walls create an airy vibe.

THROW PILLOWS

Army-green picks made from military surplus plus add some edge. allsoulsmercantile.com

LIGHTING

This whimsical 18" ceramic fixture casts a starry glow come dusk. fabby.com



MAKEOVER PHOTOGRAPHS, BRIAN WOODCOCK. SWATCHES, DAVID HILLEGAS. TIME LINE: WATER FAUCET, GAS CAN, AND PORTRAIT, GETTY IMAGES.



1954

Bowen Water Heater Co. develops the first-ever hot water system for trailers. Camping enthusiasts rejoice!

1969

Airstream constructs a Mobile Quarantine Facility to transport astronaut Neil Armstrong home from the moon landing.



1973

As a result of President Nixon's Arab oil embargo, travel trailer sales slide for the first time in the 20th century.

CAFE CURTAINS

Lightweight navy pinstripe window treatments hang on a looped track and allow just enough light to shine through. kravet.com for fabric

WOOD COUNTERTOPS

Goodbye, avocado green! The new butcher block surface adds warmth to the space.



▲ **THE EXTERIOR** A galvanized window box (hooksandlattice.com) displays sunny tickseed flowers; equipped with hooks, it can easily be moved inside. A new 15-foot awning (see page 72) doubles the trailer's square footage by creating a shady outdoor living area. The striped indoor/outdoor fabric also appears on the spare tire cover. sunbrella.com



A moose-and bear-adorned wallpaper adds a camp, but not campy, touch! chasingpaper.com

▲ **THE KITCHEN** In addition to the updated countertops, the trailer's original appliances boast a spiffy new paint job. A 3-foot-wide wooden moose anchors the petite kitchenette; backed with LED battery-operated votives, it casts a warm glow over the cook space at night. sumsouthern sunshine.etsy.com



2005

Underscoring a renewed interest in travel trailers, actor Matthew McConaughey tours in an Airstream to promote his film *Sahara*.

2015

The sixth-annual Alumapalooza, a five-day gathering of aluminum travel trailers, takes place in Jackson Center, OH.



FUN FINDS FOR A HAPPY CAMPER

Fresh decor and accessories for life on the road (or at home!)

ALL-AMERICAN

KEY CHAIN

Old Glory
Needlepoint
Fob, \$29;
smathersandbranson.com



RUSTIC

Compass
Key Chain,
\$45;
kaufmann-mercantile.com



RETRO

Banana
Charm Key
Chain, \$60;
toryburch.com



BOHEMIAN

Leaf Key
Chain, \$9;
prettybabybridal.etsy.com



WALLPAPER

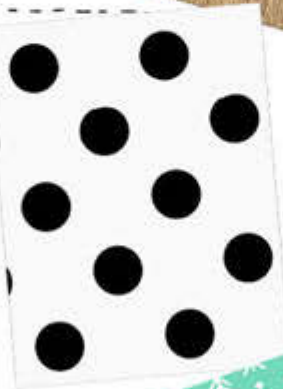
Lucky
Star in
Navy,
\$170 per
roll; sissyandmarley.com



Light Brown
Wood With
Knots, from
\$45; home depot.com



Polka Dot,
\$40 per
roll; york wall.com



Arrows in
Sea Foam
Green, \$5/
foot; spoon flower.com



FOLDING CHAIR

Classic Beach
Fold Chair,
\$229; ballard designs.com



Luggage
Folding
Chair, \$150;
izzymillion.com



Yellow-and-
White
Deluxe
Chair, \$40;
lawn chairusa.com



Achla Designs Poly
Weave Chair, \$107;
homeclick.com



THROW PILLOW



Woven
Tile Pillow
Cover,
\$44; [west
elm.com](http://westelm.com)

Raccoon
Throw
Pillow,
\$29; [land
ofnod.com](http://landofnod.com)



First Lady
Needlepoint
Throw
Pillow, \$165;
[jonathan
adler.com](http://jonathanadler.com)



Annette
Spring
Sham,
\$55;
[furbish
studio
.com](http://furbishstudio.com)



LIGHTING

Rustic Tin Star
Ceiling Light,
\$98; [shadesof
light.com](http://shadesoflight.com)



Franklin
Galvanized
Light, \$100;
[lampsplus
.com](http://lampsplus.com)



Newbury
Light, \$95;
[school
house
electric.com](http://schoolhouseelectric.com)



Capiz
Flushmount,
\$199; [pottery
barn.com](http://potterybarn.com)

WEEKEND BAG

Monterey
Tote, \$128;
[splendid
.com](http://splendid.com)



Made In
America
Duffel,
\$189; [wool
rich.com](http://woolrich.com)



Floral
Suitcase,
\$58; [noton
thehigh
street.com](http://notonthehighstreet.com)



Ibiza Sisal and
Seagrass Tote,
\$135; [shopmary
sol.com](http://shopmarysol.com)



"The House That Built Me"

INSPIRED BY MIRANDA LAMBERT'S SONG OF THE SAME NAME, WE ASKED A FEW OF OUR FAVORITE COUNTRY ARTISTS TO TELL US ABOUT THE PLACES WHERE THEY GREW UP.



"Our house was really old. It was built in 1902, and we didn't have central heat and air. We had a tire swing and chickens and pigs. It was just simple living. But it was home to a lot of people. Every day after school, my mom put out milk and cookies, and my friends and I would jump in these big round hay bales for entertainment. That was our after-school activity, and I loved it. The first thing I did when I had some money was buy a farm. I went back to my roots."



Miranda Lambert, Lindale, TX



"Although I only lived here until I was 10 years old, I spent 18 hours of the day in the summertime at the creek out back catching turtles and crawdads and lizards and snakes. Anything that my mom was afraid of, I was out there trying to snatch up. I didn't even know what a video game was, and I think that's why I loved that place."



Blake Shelton, Ada, OK



"My mommy and daddy had 8 kids, so there were 10 of us living in a small cabin in the mountains. The winters were cold, so my mommy glued newspapers and pages from old Sears Roebuck catalogs to the wall to help keep the cold out. We didn't have money for wallpaper, but my mommy made that old house stay warm and beautiful. In one of those old newspapers was a picture of an actress named Loretta Young. My mommy thought she was so beautiful that when I was born she named me after her."



Loretta Lynn, Butcher Hollow, KY



"My grandmother lived 100 yards from my front door, and to me my parents' house and her house were one in the same. Looking back, I see what I miss about that place are the simpler times. Back then, the biggest scare I ever encountered was the sound of pecans falling on Granny's tin roof. It sounded like a cannon going off!"

Jimi Westbrook
(of *Little Big Town*),
Sumiton, AL



"Our house was 3 miles down a dirt road in Kansas. We had no central heat or air, a party-line phone, and one bathroom for six people. I caught the bus during the school year and rode my bike for miles in the summer. We'd watch cartoons on Saturday morning and Hee Haw on Saturday night. It was a simple, unspoiled way to grow up."

Martina McBride,
Sharon, KS



"I grew up in a log cabin that my parents built in 1981. I started writing songs in my yellow, sunflower-themed bedroom. I'll never forget holding the guitar for dear life and trying to produce the sounds I heard in my head. That front porch is where I held my first concerts. I'd plug a microphone into a cheap little amp and sing my heart out. Every now and then, I'd even have someone in the 'audience.'"

Ashley Monroe,
Knoxville, TN



"There's no one prouder to be from Kennett, Missouri, than I am. It's where my father taught school as a band director, and our house was across the street from the high school. Every evening he hit me ground balls 'til dark, and then at night it was back to the band room where I'd play drums for hours."

David Nail,
Kennett, MO



"Loyalty is the word that comes to mind when I think back on my childhood home—an A-frame with a cornfield in the front yard and a lake in the back. I was always surrounded by love and devotion from family, right down to my uncle's Weimaraner, Barren. He lived just down the road, and every morning I'd find him in the same spot on my front porch, waiting for me to take him running or swimming."

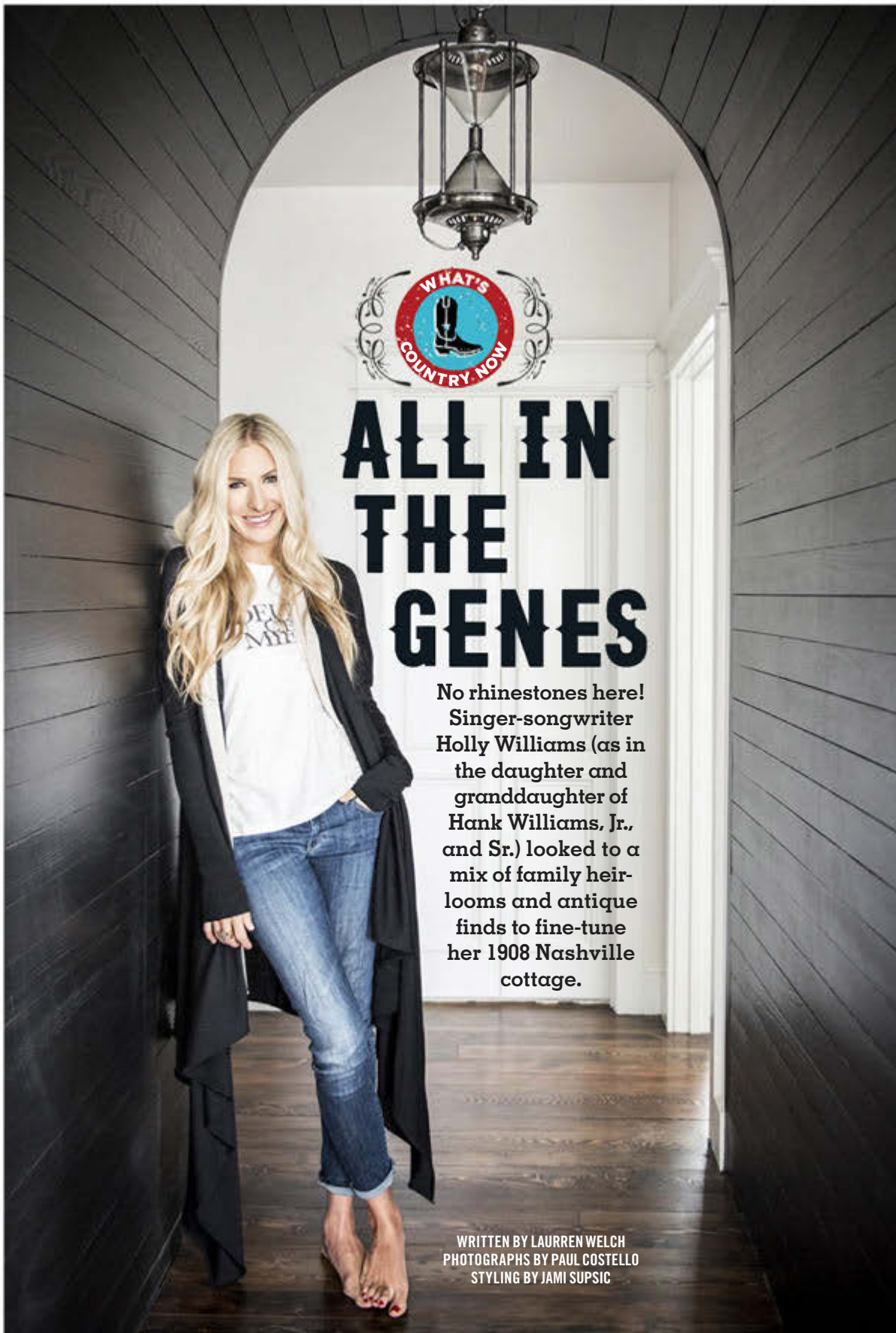
Brett Eldredge,
Paris, IL



"I grew up in a tiny house on 50 acres that my grandpa bought from his grandpa. When I moved to Nashville at 18, there wasn't a day that went by that I didn't long for that place—especially my mom's cooking! Those homesick feelings inspired my song 'Small Town USA.' I feel so blessed that my wife and I are now building a house on the family land—just across the field from my parents' home."

Justin Moore, Poyen, AR





ALL IN THE GENES

No rhinestones here! Singer-songwriter Holly Williams (as in the daughter and granddaughter of Hank Williams, Jr., and Sr.) looked to a mix of family heirlooms and antique finds to fine-tune her 1908 Nashville cottage.

WRITTEN BY LAUREN WELCH
PHOTOGRAPHS BY PAUL COSTELLO
STYLING BY JAMI SUPSIC

HAIR AND MAKEUP STYLING BY BRADY WARDLAW



DINING ROOM

Holly chose a gray, white, and black palette for its timeless appeal. The metallic floral wallpaper is from Designers Guild.



SPOTLIGHT ON HATCH SHOW PRINT



In 1879, Hatch Show Print, one of the oldest letterpress print shops in the U.S., began creating vibrant show posters that have become associated with early country music. Today, the Nashville institution continues to handcraft and ink every design, including this bestselling print featuring Holly's grandfather. \$14; hatchshowprint.com

◀ LIVING ROOM

To play up the room's abundant natural light, Holly skipped curtains and painted the walls a crisp white. In the corner, a baby grand piano inspires family jam sessions.

▶ KITCHEN

The antique copper ship lights were salvaged from a Vero Beach, FL, dockyard. Silver cordial glasses—passed down from her maternal great-grandmother Gertrude—decorate the fireplace mantel. Below, galvanized metal shelves that Holly scored for \$8 keep frequently used dishware at the ready. A chalk drawing by Holly's husband, Chris, stands guard.

When Holly Williams and her husband, Chris Coleman, a musician and artist, began house hunting in 2011, they faced a challenge: They loved the openness of their downtown Nashville loft but craved the charm of a historic home. "One night, I had a dream that we'd find an airy, historic place with a double fireplace, so the moment we spotted this one connecting the kitchen and dining area, we knew we'd found our home." A self-proclaimed picker, Holly is known to decorate the homes of friends and family members just for the fun of it. (She also owns two of Nashville's best-loved retail spots, H. Audrey, a clothing boutique, and White's Mercantile, a modern general store.) Using a mix of carefully chosen pieces, neutral colors, and treasured family keepsakes, Holly transformed her Nashville home into a timeless space. And when you come from country royalty, those heirlooms—and the stories they tell—can be true showstoppers. (Continued on page 87.) ➤



*A rare original photo of
Holly's grandfather
Hank Williams, Sr. and
grandmother
Audrey after a show*



*Soda shop stools from the
1940s, found at a
Franklin, TN, antiques
mall, create a
nostalgic spot to gather.*

MASTER BEDROOM

A mix of finishes proves black and brown do go together. Brass sconces cast warm reading light while keeping tabletops clear.



While there's no questioning the root of Holly's musical talents, it's her mother's family—a long line of artists—who sparked and cultivated her love of architecture and interior design. "My mom decorated her house in 1987, and if you walked in today you'd have no clue it wasn't recently completed. Because of her, I never buy pieces that will only work on one particular wall or in one particular house. I look for things that will hold up over time."

To put their stamp on the historic home, located in Nashville's emerging 12 South

neighborhood, Holly and Chris outfitted the kitchen (see page 85) with classic white subway tiles, polished marble, and copper accents reminiscent of their favorite French bistros. A pine ceiling gives the kitchen a country vibe, while its inky black paint job ups the space's cool factor and creates a focal point at the center of the home. "I've always loved shiplap and other wood panel finishes, but it wasn't in our budget to use those materials throughout the entire home, so I thought, 'Why not just do a ceiling or wall here and there?'"



ENTRY

Inspired by her grandmother's gallery wall, a mix of family photos and drawings fills the hallway.



LIVING ROOM

This weathered clock face hung on Paris's Boulevard Saint-Germain in the late 1800s.



"I never buy pieces that will only work on one particular wall or in one particular house. I look for things that will hold up over time."

That treatment extends into the master bedroom, where Holly coated the pine-clad ceiling a cloudy gray. The star of the room—a wrought-iron canopy bed from Restoration Hardware—is a close match to an antique one that belonged to her maternal grandmother. To toughen up the otherwise feminine space, Holly brought in a rustic leather club chair and simple pine chest. Sitting proudly on display: a hat passed down from her great-grandfather Elonzo Williams.

Throughout the rest of the house, which includes two loft-like guest bedrooms, a three-season back porch, and an art studio, are equally special

BACK PORCH

An antique trunk does double-duty as a coffee table and stealthy spot to stow away throw blankets.



"The older I get, the more I want to focus on items that will tell our story of love and loss and everything in between."

family mementos at every turn. From an entry-way gallery wall filled with generations of family photos to passed-down paintings that grace the bedrooms, reminders of loved ones permeate the home. As a new mom to 9-month-old daughter Stella June, Holly also wants to fill her house with pieces worthy of passing down, such as the crystal pendant lights that hang in the entry and the vintage rugs that cushioned her daughter's first steps. "The older I get, the more I want to focus on items that will tell our story."

EVERY PIECE HAS A STORY

Holly handpicked each doorknob, plate, and hinge in her home from Nashville's Preservation Station (thepreservationstation.com), an architectural salvage house. For similar styles, search "glass fluted" or "Crofton Neoclassical."



Lincoln Cottage
Black
Valspar



FAMILY ART

"There's nothing more soulful than decorating with reminders of loved ones, like my husband's paintings."

Chris Coleman Art, from \$75;
whitesmercantile.com



ANTIQUE MAPS

"I pick them up on the road as reminders of my travels."

Map, \$135 for 12" x 16.5";
mapsandprints.com



CLASSIC RECORDS

"From Joni Mitchell to Waylon Jennings, you can bet there's always a record playing around here."

Record, \$50; vvm.com



WOOLRICH BLANKETS

"Perfect for chilly nights! My great-grandfather carried them in his mercantile and now I sell them in my own shop."

Blanket, \$135; woolrich.com or
whitesmercantile.com

WHAT MAKES MY HOME COUNTRY

"A well-rounded mix—from modern to shabby—keeps my home feeling warm and cozy."

—Holly Williams



WEATHERED RUGS

"The beauty of an antique rug? It only gets better with time."

Persian Rug, \$650 for 4' x 6';
mainstreetrugs.etsy.com



LIVED-IN LEATHER

"My daughter used my club chairs when learning to pull up. Her tiny fingernails left marks in the leather, which I adore."

Chair, \$1,295; fourhands.com
for stores



COPPER ACCENTS

"I love the way this warm metal tones down pops of black and keeps things from feeling too slick."

Mug, \$30; whitesmercantile.com

WOOD PANEL FINISHES

"An easy way to add homespun country charm."

Snowbound
Sherwin-Williams





Where food becomes love.

Where children learn just by watching.

Where failed recipes become famous stories.

Aurora - Q2003

Blue Ribbon Kitchen

PRIZE PICKS AND SHOWSTOPPING RECIPES FOR THE HEART OF YOUR HOME

KITCHEN OF THE MONTH

CHARACTER BUILDING

Thanks to its vibrant color and vintage finds, this Round Top, Texas, cook space is chock-full of kick-off-your-boots charm.



**HOW SMART
IS THIS?**

This salvaged stained-glass window brings in light from the front entryway.

1

STEAL THIS IDEA!

Jolie strung up a pendant light using quart-size Mason jars, threaded wire, and Edison bulbs.

2

3





Jolie Sikes-Smith knows a thing or two about making flea market finds look fresh. Along with her mom and sister, she runs the Junk Gypsies shop (gypsyville.com) and stars in the *Junk Gypsies* show (the third season of which airs on HGTV and GAC on June 1). Here's how she filled her brand-new kitchen (that she shares with husband Todd and son Cash Baker) with Lone Star style.

- ① **BUTTERY WALLS** The soft creamy hue (Canyon Cloud by Behr), combined with the natural wood stain (Pecan by Minwax) on the windows, trim, and beams, creates a warm backdrop for the room's bold accents.
- ② **RED BARSTOOLS** Jolie's barstool mix—a pair of swiveling tractor seats plus a vintage vinyl-covered number—are characteristic of her signature farmhouse-meets-retro look.
- ③ **SALVAGED ISLAND** Retrofitted with electrical outlets and reconfigured drawers, this 9-foot-long piece, originally a counter in a New Jersey general store, multitasks as a prep surface, breakfast bar, and homework station.
- ④ **TURQUOISE CABINETS** To give them a slightly weathered look, Jolie first coated the cabinets with blue interior oil stain (Aquarius by Sherwin-Williams), then used a rag to apply and partially rub off a layer of Provincial Wood Finish stain by Minwax.
- ⑤ **HANDMADE TOOLBOX** This rustic caddy, which now stores plates instead of Larry Slifer's tools, is one of Jolie's favorite scores from the Round Top antiques fair. "I love that it has a story. Someday I'm going to meet someone who knew Larry Slifer!" she says.
- ⑥ **STAINLESS COUNTERTOPS** Inspired by the industrial kitchens in her parents' chain of pizza restaurants, Jolie chose the stain-proof surface for its durability and versatility. "It's not fancy, and it goes with everything," she says.
- ⑦ **OPEN STORAGE** On the cabinets flanking the vent hood, Jolie left the doors off for a casual look and convenient access to staple ingredients, spices, and dry goods stored in apothecary jars.
- ⑧ **"RESTAURANT" SIGN** To preserve its red color, Jolie coated the 20-foot-long vintage sign, salvaged from a Mexican restaurant in San Antonio, with clear polyurethane.



PANTRY UPGRADE To give the functional space a farmhouse look, Jolie's husband, Todd, built two panels inspired by barn doors then stained them black (Ebony by Minwax). **Flat Track Hardware Set:** from \$300; barndoorhardware.com



MEET THE COOK!

Homeowner Jolie Sikes gives us an insider's look into her casual kitchen.

WHO DOES THE COOKING

It tends to be a family affair. We love to put on a record, lay out some snacks, then get to work.

BEST DESIGN ADVICE

Embrace color. Just because kitchens are utilitarian rooms doesn't mean they should be quiet, sterile, or boring.

EVERY KITCHEN NEEDS

A cast-iron skillet and a pizza cutter.

COLLECTION OBSESSION

Do I have to pick just one? I'd say old signs for instant charm and vintage tablecloths for a retro vibe.

TOAST OR BISCUITS?

Biscuits—homemade only—with butter and molasses.

WHAT MAKES IT COUNTRY

All the rustic elements, from the beams to the Mason jar chandelier, plus the fact that I can watch cattle graze from my sink.

GET THE LOOK

Give your space authentic country cred with these fun finds.



Steel Arrow Marquee Sign \$98; overstock.com



Junk Gypsies Retro Black Pay Phone \$88; gypsyville.com/shop



Carolina Cottage Adjustable Tractor Stool \$140; kohls.com



Mason Jar Cluster Chandelier \$275; shadesoflight.com

finds and favorites

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the faster
you eat it.



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★ SUMMER'S ★ GREATEST HITS

A LIP-SMACKIN', FINGER-LICKIN' GUIDE TO
FRIED CHICKEN AND ALL THE FIXINS.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY
Brian Woodcock
RECIPES AND FOOD STYLING BY
Marian Cooper Cairns
PROP STYLING BY
Mary Clayton Carl

CLASSIC
BUTTERMILK FRIED
CHICKEN

Page 100



Share your photos
of our recipe
on Instagram and
tag them
#clchickenfeed.

CHICKEN GRAPHIC: GETTY IMAGES



**The slower we make it,
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Because bacon this good can't be rushed.



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OFF-THE-CHARTS ★ FRIED CHICKEN ★

CLASSIC BUTTERMILK FRIED CHICKEN

MAKES 8 servings | WORKING TIME 1 hour | TOTAL TIME 9 hours

Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper

2 cups buttermilk

2 large eggs

1/2 sweet onion, grated

2 garlic cloves, minced

5 to 6 pounds bone-in, skin-on chicken parts (breasts halved, if using)

4 cups self-rising flour

Canola oil, for frying

1/2 cup bacon drippings, optional

Grating
(versus chopping)
the onion
releases more of its
sweet flavor.

Gives
your chicken
another
layer of great
flavor!

1. Whisk together 5 teaspoons salt and 1/2 cup hot water in a bowl until dissolved. Whisk in buttermilk, eggs, onion, garlic, and 1 teaspoon pepper. Add chicken, and turn to coat. Cover and refrigerate, turning occasionally, 8 hours or up to overnight.

2. Drain chicken and discard buttermilk mixture. Whisk together flour and 3 teaspoons salt in a bowl. Toss chicken in flour mixture, one piece at a time, until evenly coated. Return all of the chicken to the flour mixture, gently toss, and let stand 15 minutes. Toss again to make sure each piece is evenly coated. Remove, shaking off excess.

This 15-minute
window
allows the flour
to really
adhere to the
chicken,
yielding an
extra-crispy
crust.

3. Preheat oven to 325°F. Line a large rimmed baking sheet with an oven-safe wire rack.

Finish in the
oven to guarantee
perfectly
cooked chicken
and a
golden crust.

4. Heat 1 1/2 inches oil and bacon drippings (if desired) in a Dutch oven over medium-high heat to 350°F. Fry chicken, in batches, skin-side down, until golden brown, 4 to 5 minutes. Turn and fry until golden brown on the second side, 4 to 5 minutes.

5. Transfer to prepared baking sheet and bake until an instant-read thermometer inserted in the thickest piece registers 165°F, 15 to 20 minutes. Let stand, on rack, 10 minutes before serving. Serve warm, at room temperature, or chilled (see below!).

An Ode to Day-After Fried Chicken

BY TRISHA YEARWOOD

"My love of fried chicken comes from my mom, who made it the old-school way, cutting up the chicken herself and saving the wishbone piece (or the 'pully-bone,' as my sister Beth and I called it) just for us kids. But as good as a fresh-from-the-fryer bird can be, here's a dirty little secret: I prefer it cold. For me there is nothing better than raiding the fridge in the wee

morning hours to find a plate of leftovers. The flavors of both the brine and the seasoning are just more intense the next day. In fact, I love it so much that I'm tempted to fry up a batch right now...and wait."

Grammy Award-winning musician Trisha Yearwood is the author of *Trisha's Table* and the star of *Trisha's Southern Kitchen* on the Food Network.

BATTER UP!

Once you've mastered the base recipe, mix it up with these variations.

DILL PICKLE

Add $\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped **fresh dill** and $\frac{1}{4}$ cup **Dijon mustard** to buttermilk mixture. Add $1\frac{1}{2}$ tablespoons **ground coriander** to flour mixture. Serve with **dill pickle chips**.

CHESAPEAKE

Add 3 tablespoons **lemon zest** and $\frac{1}{3}$ cup **fresh lemon juice** to buttermilk mixture. Add $2\frac{1}{2}$ tablespoons **Old Bay Seasoning** to flour mixture. Serve with **lemon wedges** and **Old Bay Seasoning**.

3 ALARM

Add 1 (5-ounce) bottle **habanero hot sauce** (such as Tabasco) and increase **freshly ground black pepper** to 2 tablespoons in buttermilk mixture. Add 2 tablespoons **ground cayenne pepper** to flour mixture. Serve with **hot sauce**.



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ARTIFICIAL INGREDIENTS

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SIDES OF THE SUMMER.

(Recipes on page 104; each serves eight)



SLICED
TOMATOES WITH
CORN
AND FETA



GINGER
CUCUMBERS
AND
PEPPERS



DEVILED
EGG POTATO
SALAD





TANGY
COLLARD
& CABBAGE
SLAW



5 BEAN
SUMMER
SALAD



MOJITO
WATERMELON



GINGER CUCUMBERS AND PEPPERS

WORKING TIME 15 minutes

TOTAL TIME 30 minutes

- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1/4 cup rice wine vinegar
- 1 tablespoon finely grated fresh ginger
- 2 teaspoons sugar
- 3/4 teaspoon red pepper flakes
- Kosher salt
- 2 large cucumbers, halved lengthwise, seeded, and sliced
- 1/2 pound mini sweet peppers, sliced
- 1/2 red onion, chopped
- 1/3 cup torn fresh basil

1. Combine oil, vinegar, ginger, sugar, and pepper flakes in a bowl. Season with salt.

2. Add cucumbers, peppers, onion, and basil, and toss to combine. Chill 15 minutes.

SLICED TOMATOES WITH CORN AND FETA

WORKING TIME 15 minutes

TOTAL TIME 15 minutes

- 3 cups fresh corn kernels
- 2 cups baby arugula
- 4 ounces feta, crumbled
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh oregano
- 1/3 cup olive oil
- 3 tablespoons red wine vinegar
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 2 pounds tomatoes, sliced

1. Combine corn, arugula, feta, oregano, oil, and vinegar in a bowl. Season with salt and pepper.

2. Serve tomatoes topped with corn mixture.

DEVILED EGG POTATO SALAD

WORKING TIME 30 minutes

TOTAL TIME 30 minutes

- 3 1/2 pounds Yukon gold potatoes, peeled and cut into 1-inch pieces
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1 cup mayonnaise

- 3 tablespoons yellow mustard
- 6 hard-boiled large eggs, peeled and chopped
- 3 celery ribs, thinly sliced, plus 1/4 cup chopped celery leaves
- 6 scallions, thinly sliced
- 1/3 cup chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley
- 1 (4-ounce) jar diced pimientos, drained
- Sweet paprika, for garnish

1. Place potatoes in a medium saucepan; cover with cold salted water. Simmer until tender, 4 to 5 minutes. Drain.

2. Combine mayonnaise and mustard in a bowl. Add potatoes, eggs, celery and leaves, scallions, parsley, and pimientos, and toss to combine. Season with salt and pepper. Garnish with paprika.

TANGY COLLARD & CABBAGE SLAW

WORKING TIME 20 minutes

TOTAL TIME 35 minutes

- 1/2 red onion, thinly sliced
- 1/4 cup cider vinegar
- 2 tablespoons whole-grain mustard
- 1 1/2 tablespoons honey
- 2/3 cup olive oil
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1 small bunch collard greens, stems discarded and leaves shredded
- 1/2 small head green cabbage, shredded
- 6 slices thick-cut bacon, cooked and crumbled

1. Combine onion, vinegar, mustard, honey, and oil in a bowl. Season with salt and pepper. Let stand, tossing occasionally, until onion is wilted, 5 to 10 minutes.

2. Add collard greens and cabbage, and toss to coat. Chill 15 minutes. Toss in bacon.

5 BEAN SUMMER SALAD

WORKING TIME 40 minutes

TOTAL TIME 40 minutes

- 1/4 cup olive oil

- 1/4 cup fresh lemon juice
- 1 shallot, finely chopped
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh thyme
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1 1/2 cups fresh lima beans
- 1 cup fresh black-eyed peas
- 1/2 pound smoked ham hock
- 1 cup fresh lady peas
- 1/2 pound yellow wax beans
- 1/2 pound sugar snap peas
- 1/2 cup chopped almonds

1. Whisk together oil, lemon juice, shallot, garlic, and thyme in a bowl. Season with salt and pepper.

2. Place lima beans, black-eyed peas, and ham hock in a medium saucepan; cover with water. Simmer, covered, until almost tender, 15 to 20 minutes. Add lady peas and simmer until peas and beans are tender, 8 to 10 minutes. Discard ham hock. Drain and run under cold water to cool.

3. Cook wax beans and sugar snaps in boiling salted water in a medium saucepan until crisp tender, 1 to 2 minutes. Drain and run under cold water to cool.

4. Add beans, peas, and almonds to dressing, and toss to combine.

MOJITO WATERMELON

WORKING TIME 15 minutes

TOTAL TIME 15 minutes

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 strips lime zest, sliced, plus 2 tablespoons juice
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1/2 small watermelon, rind discarded and sliced
- 1/3 cup torn fresh mint
- Flaky sea salt

1. Whisk together oil, lime juice, and sugar in a bowl. Season with salt and pepper.

2. Serve watermelon topped with dressing, lime zest, mint, and sea salt.

A SHOW-STOPPING DESSERT

SALTY PEANUT BANANA PUDDING

MAKES 8 servings

WORKING TIME 25 minutes

TOTAL TIME 4 hours, 25 minutes

- 1/3 cup all-purpose flour, spooned and leveled
- 1/4 teaspoon fine salt
- 2/3 cup plus 3 tablespoons sugar
- 1 3/4 cups whole milk
- 4 large egg yolks
- 1 3/4 cups heavy cream, divided
- 1/3 cup creamy peanut butter
- 3 teaspoons pure vanilla extract, divided
- 50 vanilla wafers
- 4 medium ripe bananas, sliced
- 3/4 cup chopped roasted and salted peanuts, divided

1. Whisk together flour, salt, and 2/3 cup sugar in medium saucepan. Whisk in milk, egg yolks, and 1/2 cup cream. Cook over medium heat, whisking constantly, until thickened and a pudding-like consistency, 7 to 9 minutes. Remove from heat and whisk in peanut butter and 2 teaspoons vanilla.

2. Arrange 25 wafers (slightly overlapping) in the bottom of an 8-by-8-inch baking dish. Top with half of banana slices, 1/4 cup peanuts, and hot pudding. Top with remaining bananas, 25 wafers, and 1/4 cup peanuts. Cover and chill 4 hours or up to overnight.

3. Whisk remaining 3 tablespoons sugar, 1 1/4 cups cream, and 1 teaspoon vanilla on medium-high with an electric mixer just until stiff peaks form, 2 to 3 minutes. Spread over top. Sprinkle with remaining 1/4 cup peanuts.



SALTY
PEANUT BANANA
PUDDING

resource guide

YOUR GO-TO GUIDE FOR REPLICATING THE LOOKS IN THIS ISSUE

EDITOR'S NOTE

page 8 (Miranda on porch swing) American Eagle Outfitters **jeans** and **chambray top**; both from *ae.com*. Free People **white shirt**; *freepeople.com*. Wimberly Inc. **belt**; *wimberlyinc.com*. Vintage Peach **bracelets**; *vincentpeach.com*. Workhorse Jewelry **rings, earrings,** and **necklace**; all from *workhorsejewelry.com*. Old Gringo Red/White/Blue **boots**; *oldgringoboots.com*.

GUEST EDITOR'S NOTE

page 10 En Creme **shirt**; *shoptiques.com*. American Eagle Outfitters **jeans**; *ae.com*. Lana Unlimited **earrings**; *lanajewelry.com*. Workhorse Jewelry **necklace**; *workhorsejewelry.com*. Streets Ahead **belt**; *streetsaheadinc.com*.

THE CHECK LIST

page 23 Armstrong Architectural Remnants Laminate **Flooring**; *armstrong.com*.

WHAT IS IT? WHAT IS IT WORTH?

page 30 Belt buckle, Linden Hill Estate Finds; *rubylane.com*. **page 31** Pitcher; *gleaned.etsy.com*. **page 32** Marquee letter; *therustedkey.etsy.com*. Hat; *edsfinds.etsy.com*. Clock, Susquehanna Antique Company; *rubylane.com*. **page 33** Quilt, Margaret's Treasures; *rubylane.com*.

TURN THIS COUNTRY SONG INTO A ROOM!

page 46 Grainsack pillow, \$24; *woodsandshore.etsy.com*. Wild Flower album by June Carter Cash, \$21; *amazon.com*. **page 50** White coverlet, from \$194, and embroidered sheet set, from \$144; both from *pineconehill.com*.

WHAT'S COUNTRY NOW

page 62 Current Elliott jean jacket; *currentelliott.com*. Free People body suit and skirt; *freepeople.com*. Linea Pelle belt; *lineapelle.com*. Deepa Gurnani headband; *deepagurnani.com*. Workhorse Jewelry earrings; *workhorsejewelry.com*. Vintage Peach bracelets; *vincentpeach.com*. Lana Unlimited rings; *lanajewelry.com*. Frye boots; *thefryecompany.com*.

RAISING THE BARN

page 65 Porch plants; *gardensofbabylon.com*. **page 66** Mavis pillow, \$165; *www.shopskout.com*. Pillows; *shopcadeaunashville.com*. **page 69** Antique trunk; *gaslampantiques.com*. **page 70** Striped shams; *ballarddesigns.com*. Cozy Cotton blanket in Deep Ocean, \$398; *coyuchi.com*. Vintage Indigo Lumbar pillow, \$165; *www.shopskout.com*. Linen Edge bath towels, \$48; *anthropologie.com*. Bathroom rug; *shopcadeaunashville.com*.

KING OF THE ROAD

page 72 Special thanks to Oak Mountain State Park for photo shoot location; *alapark.com/oak-mountain-state-park*. Director's chair and camp stool; *serenaandlily.com*. Fire pit; *fronterairon.com* for pricing. Large Galvanized Iron Banded lantern, \$40; *hobbylobby.com*. Lanterns, \$8; *save-on-crafts.com*. **page 76** Daphne kitchen clock, \$40; *worldmarket.com*. Four Feathers pillow, \$245; *pendleton-usa.com*. Ikat pillow cover, \$39; *wisteria.com*. Hardware; *vintagetrailersupply.com*.

ALL IN THE GENES

page 83 Provence runner, \$28; *shiraleah.com*. **page 84** Bronze Antler candle sticks, from \$68, and white Mason jar, from \$12; both from *whitesmercantile.com*. Hank Williams linocut, \$14; *hatchshowprint.com*. **page 86** Lumbar Quill navy pillow, \$198; *whitesmercantile.com*. **page 86** Saddle linen pillow, \$125; *whitesmercantile.com*. **page 88** Blue Patterned Leila pillow, \$155, and Red Vintage Stripe dog bed, \$125; both from *whitesmercantile.com*. Vintage rug; *juliecouch.com* for pricing. **page 88** Ink Dots duvet cover, \$187; *pineconehill.com*. Herbarium pillowcases, \$55; *lazybonesusa.com*. Hello Sunshine banner, \$85; *threepotatofour.com*. Dransfield and Ross Bias Stripes pillow, \$190; *shop.sunbrellaperformanceart.com*.

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